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## KOWLOON GUN DUEL Tear-Gas Used When Gunmen Shelter In Ruins Three Wounded In "Battle"

One man was killed and several others wounded in a gun duel on the Island yesterday afternoon between a gang of robbers and nearly 100 policemen. During the half-hour battle, the Police were reinforced by the Emergency Unit and tear-gas bombs were brought into play. When the miniature "Sydney Street" battle ended, one gangster was dead, and another wounded, while Detective Lance-Corporal Wong Fuk was critically hurt and Detective Sub-Inspector Dempsey slightly injured.

## WAGES BILL FIGURES

London, Feb. 3.  
Nearly £90,000,000 has been added to the nation's wages bill as a result of increases in weekly rates in 1947.

They were 7% percent above the September 1949 level by December 30.

For about 5,000,000 workers the weekly wages rose by £1,750,000 compared with an increase of £1,000,000 for some 8,000,000 in 1946.

There was at the same time a reduction in working hours. About 5,000,000 had their normal weekly hours reduced by about three and a half.

There were fewer strikes than in 1946 but they affected more workers and lasted longer.

Last year 2,432,000 working days were lost compared with 2,153,000 in 1946.—Reuters.

## Shinagawa Camp Echo

Yokohama, Feb. 4.  
An Eight Army Military Commission today sentenced Takahashi Araki, former civilian guard at Shinagawa prisoner of war hospital in Tokyo, to three years hard labour for maltreating two American prisoners.

Araki's victims, who were beaten and abused, were Corporal Leon Innis of Wichita, Kansas, and Machinist Mate R.F. Bangor of Compton, California.

Many Hong Kong P.O.W.'s were at Shinagawa camp, which was the hospital camp for the Tokyo area.—United Press.

The shooting started at about 2.30 p.m. yesterday, when the four gunmen took refuge in a partly demolished house in Yu Lok Lane, which runs parallel with Second Street between Centre and Western Streets. This is a typical alley, some four feet wide with semi-ruined houses on one side and a 20-foot sheer drop on the other. The robbers dug themselves in and tried to shoot it out with the Police.

ASP Wilcox and ASP Tyrer arrived on the scene with a large contingent of uniformed and plain clothes men from Central and Western Police Stations about 10 minutes after shooting started. Operations from then on were under their joint direction.

The Emergency Unit, and a detail of detectives from Upper Levels Police Station under DSI Dempsey and D.L.C. Wong Fuk were rushed to Yu Lok Lane to assist the posse there.

The story begins at 2.30 p.m. when Det-Inspector Lam Yung Chung, of "Western," received information that four armed men were going to rob 17 Western Street. With a squad of C.I.D., including Ip Shum and Chan Wing, DSI Lam rushed to the spot.

On their arrival at Second Street they saw four Chinese making off in a hurry. Challenged by the Police, the men ran along Second Street to Centre Street and turned off into Yu Lok Lane.

### Fired

As the detectives, with Chan Wing and Ip Shum in the lead, were going up the steps leading to the lane, the armed men turned and fired at their pursuers. The detectives returned the fire and one of the men was seen to drop in his tracks.

When Detective Chan Wing had passed him in pursuit of the other man the fallen gunman drew a bead on the detective. Luckily, Ip Shum, close behind, saw him. He plunged the man in the right wrist and right leg. While being hauled

up, he was shot again.

## Shanghai Vital Statistics

Shanghai, Feb. 4.  
Three hundred fifty-one persons committed suicide in Shanghai during 1947 while 584 others had their attempts foiled, police statistics disclosed.

During the year, police records show, 477 men and 458 women attempted to end their lives resulting in 361 fatalities. They included nine persons who were above 60 years old, but the largest number of persons who tried to kill themselves was in the 20-29 age bracket—451.

Two hundred twenty-two who attempted suicide during the year were in the 30-39 age bracket.

Police records also showed that 233 who tried to kill themselves were jobless and 344 were elementary school graduates.

Lingering illness caused 117 persons to end their own lives, marital difficulties 33 others and loss of employment 61 more. Fifteen persons tried suicide because they were denied "freedom" to marry.

Some 647 were killed and 1,216 injured in accidents and robberies, fist fights, stabbings and shootings.

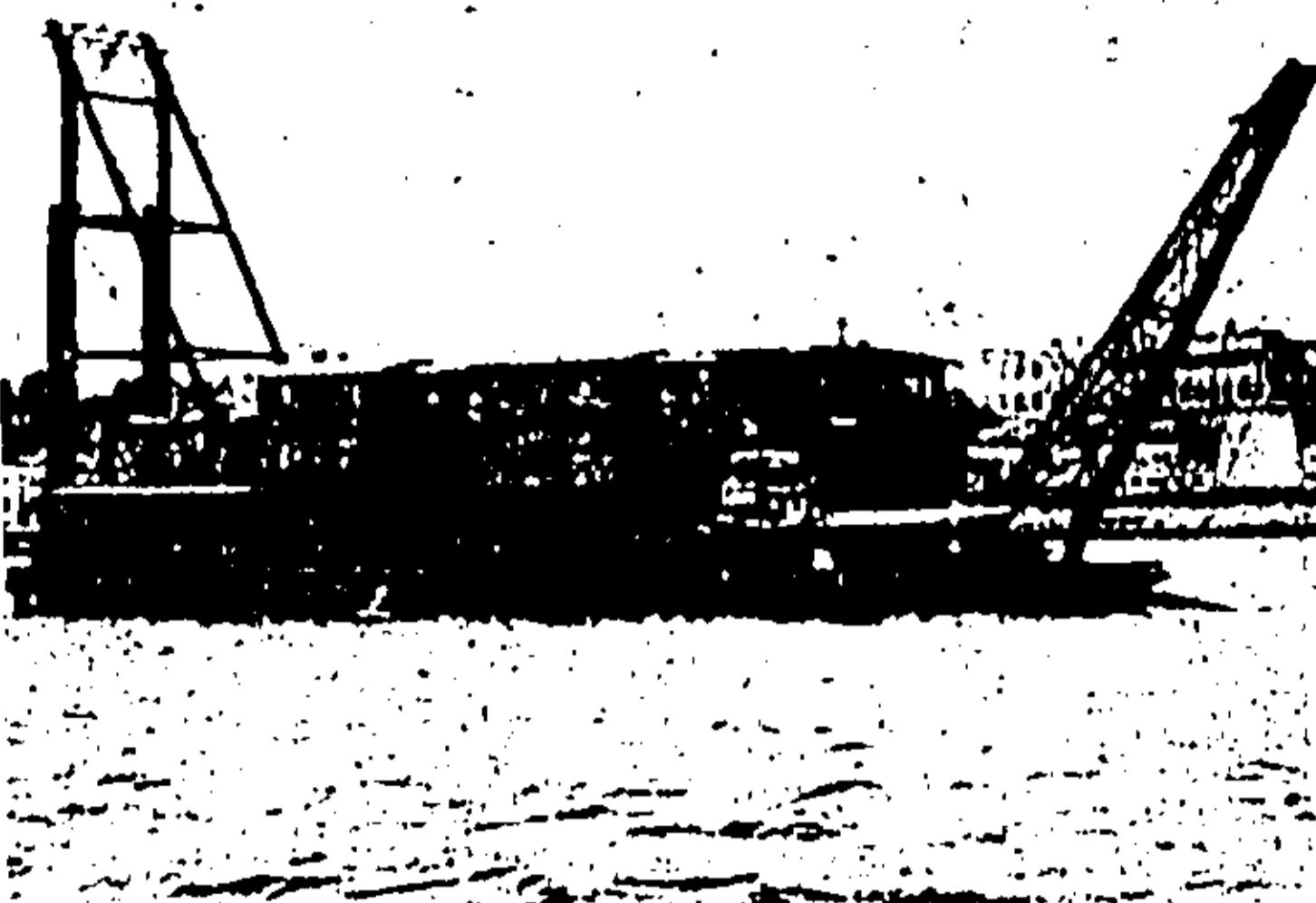
The statement continued:

"In the present conditions and until more goods and services are available for the home market, there is no justification for any general increase of individuals' money incomes."

"Such an increase will merely raise the costs of production without making more goods available and so can only have an inflationary effect. It does not follow that it would be right to stabilise all incomes as they stand today."

During the year, 727 bodies were picked up on the streets, mostly during the cold weather. They included 278 children, 298 men and 50 women.—U.P.

## Huge Dredger "Launched"



## SHANGHAI RIOTS STRAWS IN WIND

### Serious Discontent

Shanghai, Feb. 4.  
The two recent cases of assault on public officials, followed immediately afterwards by serious riots and loss of life at a factory in Shanghai, are symptomatic of the serious discontent, verging on desperation, permeating China, especially the poorer classes, today.

Main causes of this discontent are the steadily deteriorating economic conditions, entailing an extremely heavy rise in living costs.

These conditions are due mainly to the civil war which, owing to the Communists' destructive policies, is wrecking the economy of Manchuria, the whole of North China and part of Central China, but also to the Government's economic policy which is strangling what little trade still is possible. Government monopolies, the shipping ring and the restriction of imports.

Foreign firms who, before the introduction of the restrictions, had ordered flour imports, have been forced to sell them to the Central Trust for plus 10 per cent.

It is stated that part of this flour has been sold later in the Tientsin and Shanghai markets much above that price. Even admitting that Government receives all profits from the Trust's transactions, nevertheless it is obvious that this is a direct tax on the people's food.

Cutting across these causes of economic unrest there is also the growing antagonism between South and North China because the latter considers it has been neglected by the Central Government, which it thinks is only concerned with financial and commercial interests in Shanghai and the Yangtze Valley.

### Fu Tso-yi

It is said that one reason for the appointment of General Fu Tso-yi, who is a northerner, to a new command was to allay northern dissatisfaction.

With civil war raging in a large part of the country, the present growing unrest is a very grave factor which might easily lead to food riots in the larger cities, involving unpredictable political changes. —Our Own Correspondent.

## Appeal To Thirteen Leading Americans

An appeal to thirteen prominent Americans to oppose United States aid to China and to support a peace campaign in the Chinese civil war has been despatched by the Liberal Democratic Action Committee of China.

Signed by Mr. Percy Chen, Chairman of the Committee, the appeal is addressed to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Mrs. John Foster Dulles, Miss Pearl Buck, Mr. Justice William Douglas, Bishop William Scarritt, Phillip Murray, Adolph Ochs, Clarence Gannett, Leon Henderson, James Carey, David Dubinsky, Elliott Roosevelt and Walter Reuther.

Representatives of the Pearl River Water Conservancy Bureau arrived in Hong Kong on Monday to take over the refitted dredger which is to be used for dredging the Pearl River and its tributaries.

The "CHINA MAIL" Photo above shows the dredger undergoing its trials in Kowloon Bay.

The dredger, former Japanese craft, has a capacity of 1,000 metric tons per hour. The Chinese authorities took it over from the Japanese in Hainan Island after the war.

The dredger, which has been renamed "Kwangtung" (it was named "Po Ting Cheong" when taken over from the Japanese,) was towed from Hainan's Yulin harbour to Canton.

Three months ago, it was towed to Hong Kong to be refitted in the Hong Kong and Whampoa Dockyard.

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Representatives of the

## DAMAGE COSTS' RELEVANCY IN TRAFFIC HEARINGS

The question of the relevancy of damage costs in traffic hearings again cropped up before Mr. F. X. d'Almada at Central Magistracy yesterday when Mr. H. C. Lee of Wilkinson & Grist appeared as complainant against a tram driver, Lui Man-po.

Mr. Lee, whose Car 2665 was damaged by Tram No. 27, under cross-examination by defense counsel, Mr. Y. K. Kan, said repairing cost him \$62.

"Since the sum is so small, I take it that the damage was very slight," said Mr. Kan.

Mr. G. Blinstead, Traffic Superintendent, prosecuting, interposed: "I think we can leave out the sum involved." The Police were not concerned with costs of damage. Traffic regulations had been broken, and that was all the Police were interested in.

Mr. Kan—"I think I know what the Prosecution is aiming at, but I'm not alleging in this case as I did in another case recently."

(Mr. Kan, in a recent case, said "of late there have been many summonses against tram drivers. In every case when a tram and another vehicle have had an accident, the tram driver generally was made the defendant. This is very significant and in my opinion Your Worship's Court is being used to settle matters which entirely concern the Civil Court.")

Mr. Kan yesterday contended that he wanted to mention costs to point out the extent of damage.

**Mr. Lee**

In evidence Mr. Lee said he was travelling behind the tram. Following road guide signals, witness said he turned right into Jackson Road. He passed the tram, which was going very slowly, at the bottom of Garden Road and stopped after passing the lavatory at the Queen's Road-Garden Road junction, when he saw a traffic constable put up the stop signal.

He signalled to vehicles behind that he was stopping. Mr. Lee said, and pulled up opposite the Car Park, a few inches away from the tram track.

The morning was clear and sunny, witness stated in answer to a Prosecution query as to visibility.

The tram hit his rear offside mudguard. Mr. Lee continued, "the impact was great enough to shake me up."

The tram driver, Lui, said that when he approached the bend he cut off his power as he was going downhill. He saw the car overtaking his tram and stopping. He had applied both his emergency and hand brakes because he saw the car was too close to the track. The momentum downhill might have pushed the tram a little further so as to brush the car.

Traffic Sub-Inspector Norman Senior stated that a tram travelling on level ground at eight m.p.h. would stop over 28 feet in five seconds and at five m.p.h. over 13 feet in 3.5 seconds.

**Not Relevant**

Mr. Kan contended that the evidence was not relevant. Tram No. 27 was not the vehicle tested and the tests made were not in connection with the matter.

### Reminders

Today

Annual Meeting, International Assurance Co., Ltd., 12/14 Queen's Road, Central, 11 a.m.

Children's Party by Kowloon branch of Society for Protection of Children, Gun Club Hill, 2.30 p.m.

Stage Club presentation of "The Man Who Came To Dinner," Missions to Seamen Theatre, 8.30 p.m.

Bridge & Mah Jong Drive, Sailors & Soldiers Home, Wan-chai, 2.30 p.m.

### Coming Events

TOMORROW

Official opening of Kowloon Rotary Club, Peninsula Hotel, 12.30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Cosmopolitan Club Chinese New Year Dance.

H.K. Football Referees Association Dinner, Luk Kwok Hotel, 8 p.m.

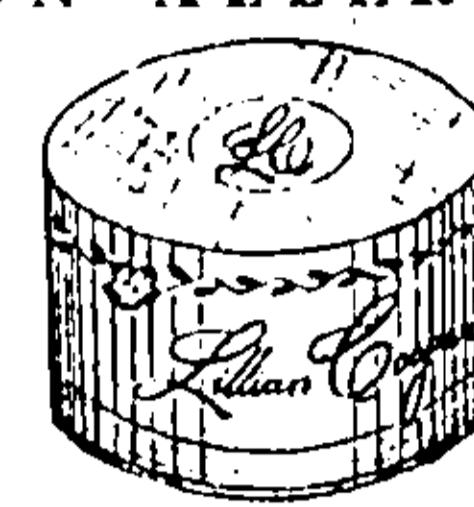
SUNDAY

Soccer: Dunes v. Norwegians, Happy Valley.

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SERVANTS' PASSES

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3 including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tic Tac men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10 including tax are obtainable through the Secretary upon the written or personal introduction of a Member, such Member to be responsible for all debts etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurer's Comptador Office will close at 11 a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. Both Offices at 1st floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of tiffins will be obtainable at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 2783).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

### PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3 including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tic Tac men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

### SERVANTS' PASSES

Passes for Servants will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY on application to the Secretary, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

Any persons found loitering with Servants' passes in their possession will forfeit the same and will be removed from the enclosure.

BY ORDER,  
G. V. COOPER,  
Actg. Secretary.

### STAGE PLAY

The Hong Kong Stage Club's production of "The Man who Came to Dinner" played successfully to a full audience last night in the Mission to Seamen theatre. The play will be on for another three nights, with booking at Mourier's. A review will appear in tomorrow's issue of the "China Mail."

### Personalalia

Lt. Col. J. R. Filmer-Bennett, MC, who has commanded the 1st Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers for the past two and half years during their tour in India and the Far East relinquished his command at the beginning of this month. He is returning to the U.K. prior to taking up a new appointment in either Burma or West Africa.

His successor is Lt. Col. D. Shaw, DSO, MC, who recently arrived in the Colony from Mauritius Island where he was Garrison Commander. Lt. Col. Shaw served with the 2nd Bn. Inniskilling at Dunkirk, where he was awarded the Military Cross. In Burma and Madras he commanded a Commando Unit and later in the war commanded the 2nd Bn. Inniskilling in Italy and Austria, being awarded the DSO.

Kenneth Alber Parker, 17-year-old British seaman, appeared at Central Magistracy yesterday charged with being a delinquent person and was committed to the House of Detention by Mr. F. X. d'Almada.

### The Devil Proved A Bad Driver

Chung Kwok-kau, 50-year-old licensed driver, was driving lorry 5208 along Castle Peak Road at 9.30 a.m. on Feb. 3 when, just at the 10-mile stone, the devil took over the control of the vehicle.

The devil, according to the witness, was driving an empty lorry from Kowloon to Un Lung on the left side of the road, with its near side 20 feet south of the 10-mile stone.

They also found by the wheel-marks that the lorry ran along the embankment, knocked down the milestone, and proceeded (with its wheels still on the embankment) for another 141 feet before it rolled down the hillside to the sea, a sheer drop of 86 feet.

The Traffic Department (Kowloon) took a more prosaic view of the whole accident.

According to TSI Bell, defendant reported to the Tsui Wan Police Station that his lorry met with an accident at the 10-mile stone at Castle Peak Road.

The scene was visited by the Police who found that accused

### ATS Chief In Colony

Senior Controller M. J. C. Tyrwhitt, OBE, Director ATS, who is touring ATS units in the Middle East and Far East, arrives in Hong Kong on Monday. Senior Controller Tyrwhitt, who is a daughter of Admiral Sir Reginald Tyrwhitt, C-in-C China Station 1927-28, has been serving with the ATS since its formation in 1938. In 1945 she became Deputy Director, assuming her present appointment early in 1946.

The ATS platoon in Hong Kong, commanded by Lt. Col. McLean, numbers 34. The majority of these Auxiliaries are attached to Signals working as switch board operators, whilst the remainder are mostly clerks in HQ Land Forces. No higher praise could be given to this platoon than that of Major General G. W. E. J. Erskine, G.O.C. Hong Kong, who at a recent press conference stated: "They are excellent and I do not know what I should do without them."

After the war, the Army Council recognised the excellent work of the ATS and decided to make it a permanent arm of the Services, thus they are no longer an Auxiliary arm, and this title is to be changed in the near future.

Kenneth Alber Parker, 17-year-old British seaman, appeared at Central Magistracy yesterday charged with being a delinquent person and was committed to the House of Detention by Mr. F. X. d'Almada.

### Saw Stolen Cloth Being Sold

How a chance conversation between Mok Yam, master of the Sing Yuet Factory of Shuter Street, and Lau Po-sang resulted in the recovery of all property stolen nine hours earlier from the factory and led to the arrest of a man and two women within 24 hours, was told by Det. Sub-Inspector J. R. Sykes to Mr. W. H. Latimer of Kowloon yesterday.

The burglary took place at 4 a.m. on Jan. 27, said DSI Sykes, when Wong Sik-kwong (25) was charged with burglary and receiving stolen property, and Keung Kwai (43) widow, and Chan Kin-ying (24) married woman, with receiving stolen property.

At 9 a.m. Lau Po-sang, residing at 150 Yue Kuk Street, first floor, saw a man in the "teng" (the cloth) and the bicycle, and gave the names of his accomplices as Lo Wah and Hung Tsai.

The bicycle, said DSI Sykes, was recovered from the Hop Hing Timber Yard, and some more cloth from 193 Reclamation Street, ground floor. The occupants of that floor told the Police that the cloth was left by Chan Kim-ying who resided on the first floor.

Wong was sentenced to 18 months' hard labour, and the two women four months each.

### "Not Fit"

TSI Bell: "I personally do not think a man who lets the devil take over control of his vehicle is fit to be allowed a licence."

Magistrate: "Neither do I."

Concluding, TSI Bell pointed out that accused had six convictions between Feb. 20 last and Oct. 16 last year, including two "warning letters" for carrying excessive passengers.

Defendant was fined \$500 (or three months' hard labour), with the recommendation that his licence be suspended for 12 months.

**MICHELIN**

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# Allegations Against Police Hawker Says He Was Molested

## Hawker Used An Old Trick

Pleading guilty to a charge of larceny by trick, Ho Hung-25, hawker, was yesterday sentenced to six months' hard labour by Mr. J. G. Conklin at Central Magistracy.

According to the prosecution, Ho approached complainant in regard to the purchase of 50 cartons of melon seeds. He said he was working at the Oriental Theatre and requested that delivery be made there, payment to be made on receipt of the goods.

A folk of the complainant was sent with the seeds and was met by defendant at the Theatre entrance. The latter took the seeds and asked the folk to wait, explaining that payment would be made after the seeds had been weighed.

He went inside the Theatre but did not reappear, having left by the rear entrance.

On Feb. 2, accused was recognized by the folk and arrested. On being charged at the Police Station, he admitted the larceny.

## War Trial Adjourns

No. 1 Australian War Crimes Court adjourned proceedings against 17 alleged Japanese war criminals indefinitely yesterday after sitting for half a day, hearing the closing phase of the Prosecution.

The Court, composed of Lt.-Col. H. G. Gunn (President), Lt.-Col. J. T. Brock (Judge Advocate) with Major N. Metford and Lt. R. Carter as members, is trying Commander Tahara Sotsuma of the Hainan Island POW Camp and 16 of his associates for mistreating 263 Australians and 237 Dutchmen and causing the death of some 150 prisoners between 1942 and 1945.

Major Grant-McIntyre and Major A. Mackay are prosecuting jointly.

Both are from the Australian Division, SCAP (GHQ) Tokyo.

Allegations against the police were made by Chan Yiu, 28-year-old folk of the "Keung Sheung Yat Po," who appeared at Central Magistracy yesterday charged with obstruction and hawking without a licence in Queen's Road, Central.

Chan, who pleaded not guilty, received money from a man and produced two witnesses, one of whom is a Fire-Flight officer, was convicted and sentenced by Mr. F. X. d'Almada, who remarked: "So many people are selling newspapers every day and not molested, so why should you be?"

Defendant, who was paid to have been in newspaper delivery route of the Chinese League for over 10 years with a clear record, told the court that he delivered a paper to a subscriber aboard a fire-boat in Queen's Road, Central, near Connaught Road, Central, near the Sincere Company.

### Pain

"I was suddenly gripped by the neck from behind," Chan alleged, "and it was right on my opened boat. The attacking party caused me to reprimand the person, who claimed to be a detective and asked me for a pass."

Defendant said that his office did not issue passes to the folks, and denied the detective's assertion that he accepted money from the fire-boat officer, who received the paper.

Chan also told the detective that the papers were not for sale and were only for the usual subscribers.

"I was pushed by the neck again," he alleged. "When I asked him to release me as the pain was too great, he answered: 'So you want to run away?'

Wong Yee wing, a fire-boat officer, said that the Fire Brigade ordered the "Keung Sheung" for the use of members, and defendant delivered the paper every morning between 8 and 9 a.m.

### Not Right

He also denied giving any money to defendant, and alleged that the detective's evidence was "not right."

Mg. Wu Wing-Loong, general affairs clerk of the daily, said that Chan had been employed for over 10 years, to deliver papers to subscribers. The Fire Brigade was one of its subscribers.

Detective 869 Au Kwok-on took the court in the witness box that he saw defendant at about 9 a.m. selling newspapers and

## IRAQ REJECTS TREATY

Baghdad, Feb. 3.—The Iraqi Government officially informed Mr. D. L. Bush, acting British Ambassador in Baghdad, today of its rejection of the Anglo-Iraq treaty signed at Portsmouth earlier this month, according to quarters in close touch with the Iraqi Cabinet.—Reuters.

## READERS' LETTERS

### Disclaimer

Sir.—Appearing in the Tuesday, February 3rd, issue of your paper was a column about the meeting of the Democratic League, Kuomintang Revolutionary Committee, National Salvation Group, Chinese Peasant and Workers Democratic Party, Chinese Democratic Promotion Society, Joint Society of Sir. Min Chui Disciples and Chih Kung Tong.

As Director and Deputy Director of the Chinese Freemasons' Democratic Party of China in the Districts of Hong Kong and Macao, we venture to call the attention of the public particularly to the fact that this party was formed by members of the Chih Kung Tong in all the Americas. Chih Kung Tong is the predecessor of the Chinese Freemasons' Democratic Party known as Ming Chih Tang.

A political party under the name of Chih Kung Tang was formed during the time of General Chan Chung Ming, but was dissolved later on. It is likely that attempts are being made to revive the Chih Kung Tang, and it is also likely that a mistake might have been made when instead of giving the name Chih Kung Tang, Chih Kung Tang was given erroneously. If, however, it is purposely given with the intention of confusing the public in order to implicate the Chih Kung Tang or the Chinese Freemasons' Democratic Party in the matter, then, this letter is to refute such a statement absolutely.

Chih Kung Tang existed only in the Americas and is no longer in existence, since it had been organized into the Chinese Free Masons' Democratic Party, as above stated. It was certainly a surprise to learn that such a statement as appeared in the column of your paper, that the Chih Kung Tang participated in issuing jointly the statement by the Democratic League and others.

It is desired to be pointed out unequivocally that the Chih Kung Tang as a political party under the name of the Chinese Freemasons' Democratic Party has nothing, whatsoever, to do with that statement, as the aim and object of our party is above all for the interest of the Chinese people and nation, and we hold our own views aloof from those of other parties and they are not in any way influenced by exotic fanatic doctrines.

Your kind consideration in giving this pen letter its appearance in your paper will be greatly appreciated.

MING CHIH TANG.

### EXTRA TRAIN

An additional fast train will run between Kowloon and Canton for the Chinese New Year period from Feb. 5 to 9 and 13 to 17, both dates inclusive.

Third class passengers only will be booked by this train which will leave Kowloon at 7.37 p.m. and arrive Canton 11.11 p.m. and leave Canton 3.25 p.m. arriving Kowloon 8.00 p.m.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The House of Representatives passed and sent to the Senate today a bill extending until December 31 the right of the alien spouses of American service personnel to enter the United States. Previous legislation expired at the end of 1947.—Reuters.

A 6-year-old boy, Chung Wan-ho, was knocked down by private car 2992 at the junction of Bowring Canal Road and Hennessy Road shortly after 9 p.m. yesterday. He died on the way to Queen Mary Hospital.

## NO JURISDICTION TO HEAR APPEAL

Mo Kit-wan alias Mo Ma-hing of 566 Nathan Road, fined \$5,500 by Mr. Blair-Kerr at Kowloon Magistracy on Nov. 12 on four counts of overcharging of rent, one of failing to post a notice of the amount of rent paid and an additional charge, framed by the Magistrate, of receiving key money, had his appeal against the conviction dismissed at the Supreme Court yesterday.

Mr. D.A.L. Wright instructed by Mr. M.A. da Silva was for the appellant and Mr. J. Reynolds for the Crown.

Mr. Reynolds said that the proper recognizances required were not entered into and that the court had no power to hear the appeal.

Mr. Wright said that the Magistrate if not primarily responsible for the errors was at least a party to it. The provisions of Section (e) (2) had been substantially if not literally complied with and it was a fit for the judge to exercise his discretion for the appellant.

Appellant had entered into recognizance on a printed form in the presence of the Magistrate but was ignorant of the correct form and did not know that any irregularities had been committed. The solicitor for the appellant was not responsible for the error. He did not get a copy made by the clerk unless application were made for a copy of the proceedings. Recognition was down outside the 21 days in which it should have been entered.

### Judgment

In dismissing the appeal Mr. Justice Gould said:

I hold that the words of the Section 112, s. 111—of the Magistrate's Ordinance as applying to the section of the appellant are mandatory. If they are not complied with there is no jurisdiction in this Court to hear the appeal in question. Cases decided under similar circumstances in England sometimes how an appeal in issue to an appellant, for example, in one case notice was given verbally to the Justices that an appeal would be lodged. This was not followed up by the clerk in time and the appeal was a defeat of justice rather than of substance and was held there was no jurisdiction.

The kind of Government which Americans would welcome would be the one desired by the majority of the German population, he added.

General Clay said the proclamation of the Economic Council would probably take place some time next week.

Considering the speed at which the denazification proceedings were being conducted, he hoped denazification would be completed by June 1, 1948.—Reuters.

## German Federal Cabinet?

Stuttgart, Feb. 3.—General Lucius D. Clay, the American Military Governor in Germany, speaking at press conference here today, said his Government "would welcome a Federal Government in Germany."

One could argue for years, he continued, when discussing the institution of a Federal State about which right to give to the individual states and which to reserve for the Federal Government.

General Clay pointed to the history of the United States in this connection and declared that a future German Government should be flexible and not rigid.

The kind of Government which Americans would welcome would be the one desired by the majority of the German population, he added.

General Clay said the proclamation of the Economic Council would probably take place some time next week.

Considering the speed at which the denazification proceedings were being conducted, he hoped denazification would be completed by June 1, 1948.—Reuters.

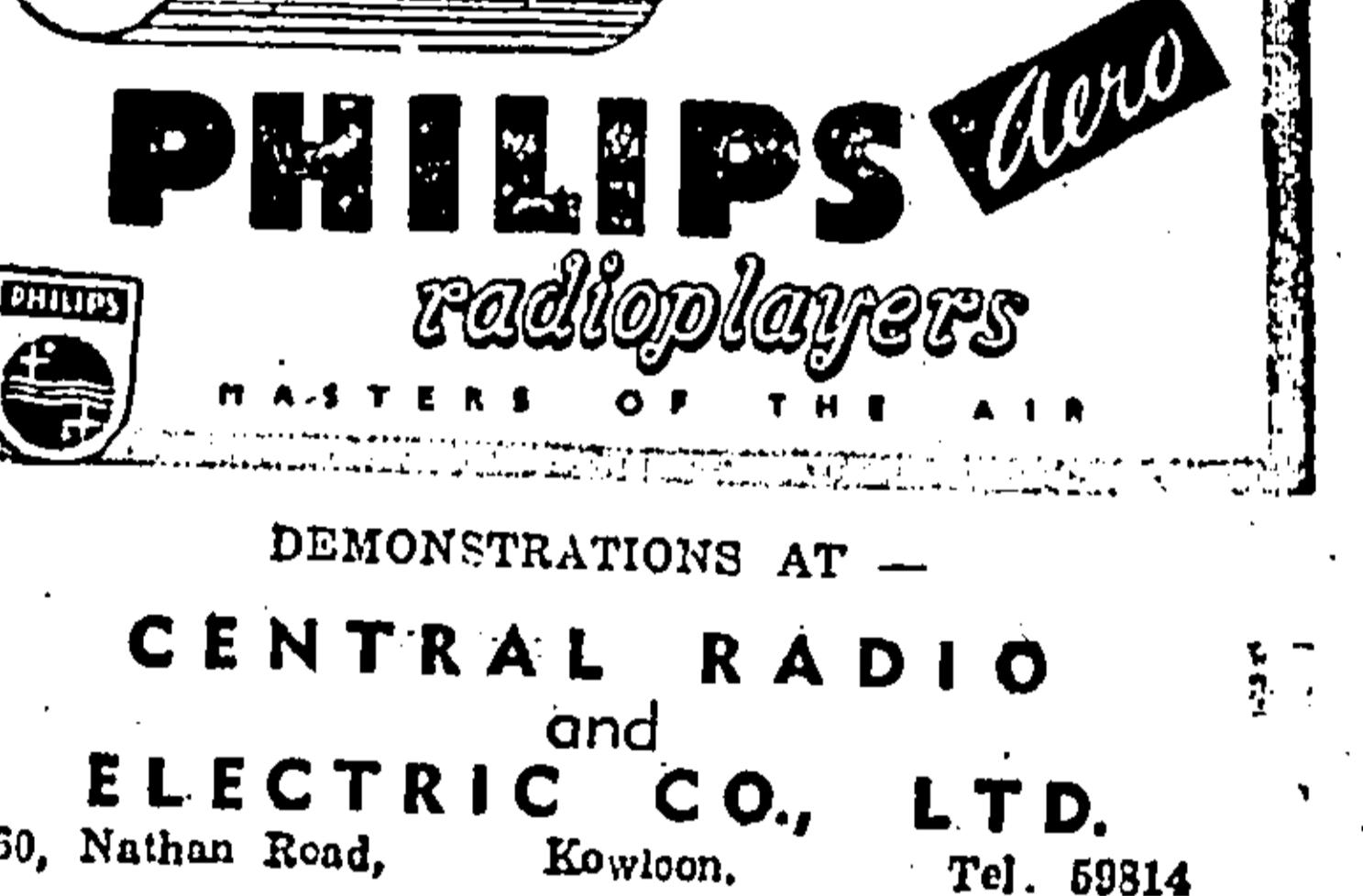


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## RADIO

ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2.00 p.m. and 6.00 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 9.52 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 4.10 to 7.30 and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

12.32 p.m.—Alfredo Campbell and His Orch. & Vincent Phillips (Bo-prano).

1.00 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Services: "Rehearsal to the Stars".

1.15 p.m.—News: Weather Report and Announcements.

1.25 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.

1.30 p.m.—Dance Band of R.M.S. "Russe" (by kind permission of the Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet).

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

6.00 p.m.—Studio: Radio Rhythms presented by Philip Burn.

6.30 p.m.—Studio: La Dame-Histoire French.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay: World and Home News.

7.15 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Services: "ITMA" with Totanus Handley.

7.45 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Services: "The Masquerade".

8.00 p.m.—Music and Song from Foreign Lands.

8.30 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Services: "Music in Many Lands".

9.00 p.m.—London Relay: Home News.

9.15 p.m.—Studio: Book Reviews. Presented by Aileen Dekker.

9.25 p.m.—Studio: Vocal Recital by Harry Moody (Baritone) with Piano accompaniment by Val Bowman.

9.45 p.m.—Studio: "A Short Story" by Douglas MacLean.

10.00 p.m.—London Relay: Radio News Read.

10.15 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Services: "When the Gods Love".

10.45 p.m.—"Tunel" by Nobuo-Loh-Ago for Dancing.

11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

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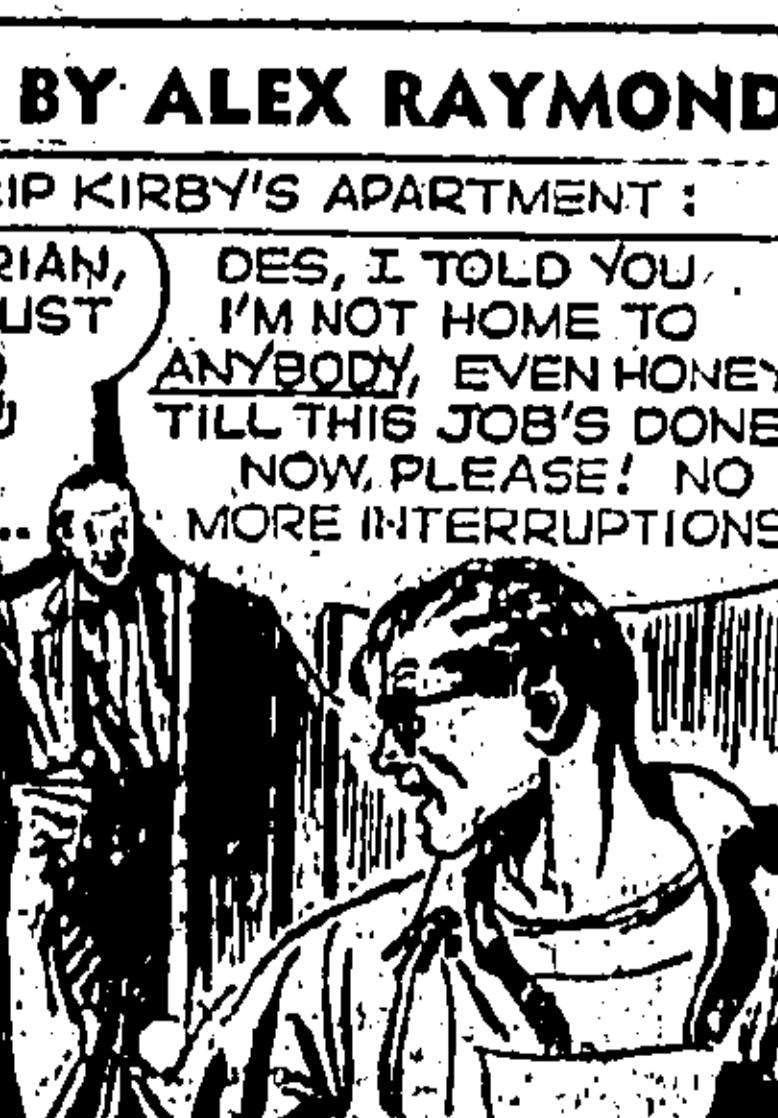
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I'LL BET HE'S CUTE! WHEN CAN I SEE HIM? YOU KNOW, DOLLY, YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME FLAT AMONG THE CHAMPAGNE WOLVES STILL... AFTER YOU? DON'T YOU HAVE A STEADY, PAGAN, I MEAN, MADELOON?

MISS DORIAN, SIR... SHE JUST WANTS TO THANK YOU FOR THE FLOWERS...

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REQUIRED immediately by British Import Firm (a) Chinese Import Shipping Clerk, capable of handling all shipping documents, including Insurance claims, Stock records, Delivery Orders etc. (b) Chinese junior book-keeper (c) Chinese junior typist—filing clerk (d) Bilingual female telephonist. Apply P.O. Box 148 for interview.

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UNDERWOOD LATEX MODEL just arrived. Lowest price. Also Typewriters for rent. Service guaranteed. Tel. 27633. Universal Typewriter Co., 22 Des Voeux Road, C, 1st Flr.

## URBAN COUNCIL NOTICE

1. It is hereby notified that sealed tenders, in duplicate, which should be clearly marked "Tender for the erection of tents on the above Beaches" will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Colonial Secretariat, until noon on Friday, the 20th February, 1948.

2. Tenders are invited for monthly rentals for the right to occupy certain areas on the following beaches and to erect tents thereon for hire to the public by the hour or by the day for the period 15th April, 1948, to 14th November, 1948:

Beach	Approximate area of sites	Approximate No. of Tents
Repulse Bay (Main Beach)	Site A—13,000 sq. ft.	50
	Site B—10,000 sq. ft.	40
Stanley (Main Beach, Tytan Bay)	Site A—7,000 sq. ft.	30
	Site B—5,000 sq. ft.	20
Island Bay (Shek O)	Whole Beach	75
Big Wave Bay	Whole Beach	50

Plans of the above beaches, showing these sites, may be seen in the office of the Secretary, Urban Council.

3. Tents must be of an approved type, dimensions not less than 7 feet long, 7 feet wide, 7 feet high, with an awning in front at least 5 feet long.

4. Each tent to be provided with table, two deck chairs, grass mat and fresh water (if available) at no extra cost.

5. The following maximum charges to be paid by the public will be allowed for the hire of tents:

Repulse Bay	Island Bay and Stanley	and Big Wave Bay
For a period not exceeding two hours	\$2.00	\$3.00
Exceeding 2 hrs, but not exceeding 3 hrs.	3.00	4.00
" 3 " " " "	4 " 4.00	5.00
" 4 " " " "	5 " 5.00	6.00
" 5 " " " "	7.00	8.00

6. The tender price should include the provision of a tent for the permanent use of the Government Beach Overseer and/or Inspector.

7. No tender will be considered, unless the person tendering attaches thereto a receipt to the effect that he has deposited with the Treasury, Prince's Building, the sum of \$250.00 as a pledge of the bona fides of his tender, which sum shall be forfeited to the Government if such person fails or refuses to carry out his tender, should such tender be accepted. Deposits will be returned to unsuccessful tenderers.

8. The successful tenderer will be required to sign a formal contract containing conditions to be prescribed by the Urban Council, and also to deposit with the Treasury a sum equivalent to one month's rent as security for the due fulfilment of the contract.

9. For full particulars and form of tender apply at the office of the Secretary, Urban Council, Post Office Building, top floor.

10. The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

11. During the period of the contract no other person will be allowed to erect tents on any of the above beaches.

R. W. H. MAYNARD,  
Secretary, Urban Council.

30th January, 1948.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

It is hereby notified that the following Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction will be held at the Offices of the Public Works Department on Monday, the 9th day of February, 1948 at 3 p.m.

Sale Conditions may be obtained and sale plan inspected at the Office of the Superintendent of Crown Lands and Surveys, Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong.

### PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Location	Boundaries	Area in ac. ft.	Annual Rental	Upset Price
1	New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 3512	Tai Po Road	As per sale plan (Area coloured red)	43,000 (about)	\$700	\$21,000

Immediately after the fall of the hammer the purchaser shall according to the Conditions of Sale pay to the Auctioneer a sum of \$4,500.00 in cash or by cheque which shall be certified by the Bank on which it is drawn. The Bank must be a member of the Exchange Banks Association.

V. KENNIFER,  
Director of Public Works.

Date: 30th January, 1948.

## HONGKONG AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION URGENT NOTICE

In order to serve notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held at an early date, will all prewar members desirous of resuming membership please send a chit notifying their name, address and motor car or cycle registration number to:

Mr. T. E. Jackson,  
Assistant Director of Marine,  
Harbour Office.

Note—The new subscription fees will be decided at the Annual General Meeting of Members.

Motorists wishing to join the Association may obtain a form from any member of the Interim Committee or from the address above.

T. E. JACKSON.

Service Auction Rooms  
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Lane Crawford's, Tel. 33161.

## POLICE FORCE

In view of the approaching Chinese New Year, it is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor has given permission for fireworks, not being unlawful fireworks, to be kindled, discharged or let off within the portions of the Colony enumerated in Part I of the following Table within the respective times set opposite such portions in such Part I, subject nevertheless to the exceptions, prohibitions and restrictions set out in Part II, of the said Table.

### PART I.

#### TABLE

Portion of the Colony.  
(Subject nevertheless to the exceptions and prohibitions and restrictions set forth in Part II of this Table.)

#### Permitted Times.

In the Island of Hong Kong:—  
(1) All the area within and bounded by Pedder Street to Connaught Road Central to Murray Road to Queen's Road Central, and back to Pedder Street.

(1), (2) and (3) from 11 p.m. on Monday the 10th February, 1948 to 1 a.m. on Tuesday the 10th February, 1948.

(2) All that area within and bounded by a line from the entrance to the Royal Naval Hospital in Queen's Road East to Kennedy Road, along Kennedy Road to a line running immediately behind and parallel to Hing Wan Street, thence along this line to Stone Nullah Lane, down Stone Nullah Lane to Queen's Road East, along Queen's Road East to Tai Yuen Street by Tai Yuen Street, and O'Brien Road to Gloucester Road, along Gloucester Road to Stewart Road, and thence by Stewart Road and Heard Street to the boundary of the Public Works Department Store.

Also from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday the 10th February, 1948.

(3) All the area within and bounded by Leighton Hill Road, to Caroline Road, to Shaukiwan Road, along Eastern Hospital Road, to Tai Hang Road, along Tai Hang Road to Stubbs Road, to Morrison Gap Road, to Morrison Hill Road, and back to Leighton Hill Road.

Also from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. on Monday the 16th February, 1948.

(4) All the area within and bounded by Nathan Road from Austin Road to Boundary Street thence Boundary Street to the Railway Line, thence the Railway Line to the Northern end of Kowloon Tong, thence Cornwall Road to Waterloo Road to Boundary Street, thence Boundary Street to Prince Edward Road, thence Prince Edward Road to Argyle Street, thence Argyle Street to Waterloo Road, thence Waterloo Road to No. 4 Railway Bridge, thence Chatham Road, thence Chatham Road to Austin Road.

The whole of Jordan Road is included within the boundary.

(5) All that portion of the Kowloon Peninsula south of Austin Road.

(4) The same times as for areas (1), (2) and (3) above.

(6) The area within (and including) the following boundary:—

(4) All that portion of the Kowloon Peninsula south of Austin Road.

(5) The same times as for areas (1), (2) and (3) above.

(6) All that portion of the Kowloon Peninsula south of Austin Road.

The whole of Jordan Road is included within the boundary.

(6) Elsewhere in the Colony.

From 4 p.m. on Monday the 9th February, 1948 to 4 p.m. on Wednesday the 11th February, 1948.

From 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Monday the 10th February, 1948.

### PART II.

#### EXCEPTIONS, PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.

No firework shall be discharged within the following area:—

All that area within and bounded by a line along the whole of Ko Shing Street to its western end or junction with Des Voeux Road West, thence along Des Voeux Road West to its junction with Centre Street, thence along Centre Street to its junction with Bonham Road, thence along and including Bonham Road to a point found by producing the eastern boundary of Pound Lane, thence to and along and including Pound Lane, thence along and including Hollywood Road to its junction with Queen's Road West, thence along Queen's Road West to its junction with Queen's Street, thence along Queen's Street to its junction with Ko Shing Street, the point of commencement. The course of the said line is such that boundary streets and roads not specifically included in the area lie outside it.

No burning firework or other fire shall be thrown above the head, or near any person or inflammable material, and every reasonable precaution must be taken against accident.

The kindling, discharge or letting off of fireworks in or in the vicinity of hospitals, or of places of Christian Worship during Divine Service is prohibited.

The firing of Bombs, "Electric" crackers and "Golden Coin" crackers is strictly prohibited.

With reference to the permission hereby notified attention is drawn to the rule set forth in Government Notification No. 79 published in the Government Gazette dated 10th February, 1938. "No person shall make, sell, or have in his possession any firework which exploded on impact, or which contains any explosive ingredient or mixture other than black gunpowder, charcoal, sulphur, saltpetre, aluminium and potassium perchlorate, or which has in any single container thereof more than 10 grains of any explosive mixture in which potassium perchlorate is an ingredient".

Occupiers of premises are warned as to their liability under the Summary Offences Ordinance, 1932, in particular in respect of any unlawful firing or throwing of fireworks at, on or from their premises.

The Police have strict orders to summon or arrest persons firing fireworks in contravention of the foregoing permission and rule.

-W. LA B. SPARROW,  
Acting Commissioner of Police.

19th January, 1948.

## THE GOLDEN GATE PRINTING PRESS

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Betty Brewer · Walter Catlett · Directed by RAY ENRIGHT

\* NEXT CHANGE Bud A BEOTT Lou COSTELLO in  
THEY'RE BACK ... From the FRONT ...  
in their NEWEST & by far their FUNNIEST HIT!  
"BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME"

**CENTRAL  
THEATRE**

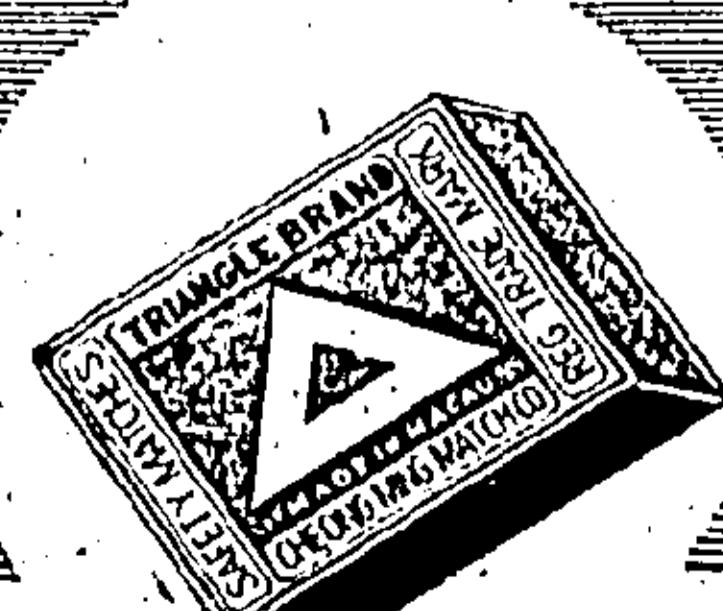
TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

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# "COLONIALISM IS DEAD" Queen Wilhelmina On New Indonesia "Memorable Goal" Reached

The Hague, Feb. 3.  
"Colonialism is dead," said Queen Wilhelmina, broadcasting tonight to Holland's wartime allies about the new Indonesia and its place in the Dutch Commonwealth.

"The peoples of our Commonwealth have reached a memorable goal. A free Federated Indonesia is about to take its place among the democratic nations of the world."

Queen Wilhelmina said a partnership of the United States of Indonesia, forming a union with the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Surinam and the Antilles, was rapidly taking shape.

She added that common man was still far from being free from fear and want in those parts of Indonesia "where terrorists are still committing manslaughter, pillage and arson. The powers of anarchy and disorder will be overcome because the Indonesian peoples are determined to take up the responsibilities and obligations of democratic self-government. It may well be that the solution being reached in Indonesia will set the pattern for solution in wider parts of Asia."

Blessed with many riches of the earth, the United States of Indonesia can take a great share in the common fight against famine and need."

## Living Reality

Queen Wilhelmina declared: "Seven years ago, when Holland was under Nazi oppression, I announced to my countrymen the intention to establish a new relationship between the Netherlands and the other parts of our Commonwealth.

"Colonialism is dead. We do not disown our past and the proud achievements of bygone days. But a nation must be strong enough to make a new beginning. We shall be strong enough.

"What the peoples of the world need now is a new way of living together in a close partnership based on equality and mutual trust."

The broadcast was made from the Queen's bedroom in Amsterdam Palace, to which she is confined because of a slight cold.—Reuter.

NEHRU ASKED  
TO RESIGN

New Delhi, Feb. 3.  
Socialist Party leaders have called for the resignation of India's Cabinet in atonement for the assassination of Mohandas K. Gandhi.

Jaya Prakash Narayan told a news conference Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru should quit and the government should be reconstituted to rid it of "all communal-minded ministers."—Associated Press.

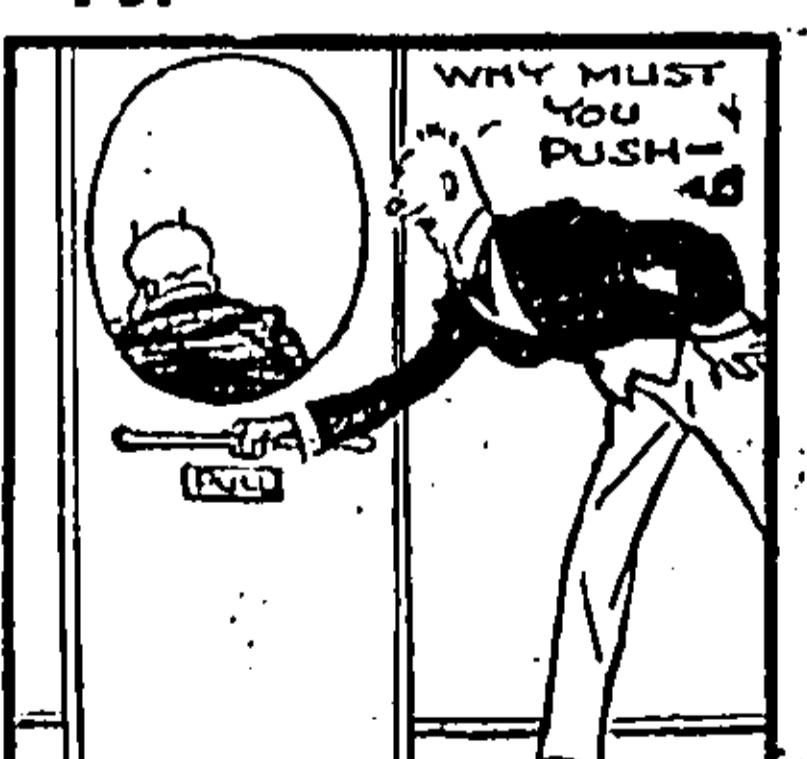
SOVIET WASTE

Moscow, Feb. 3.  
The Budget Committee of Supreme Soviet (Parliament) today sharply criticized inefficiency in the Soviet Government and industry, charging that costs were far above planned levels while housing construction lagged behind.

Financial experts in the Lower House focussed their attack

on uneconomical methods in industry and excessive costs of local Government, which they said were "wasting millions of rubles."—United Press.

POP



## TEST-TUBE BABIES

Sydney, Feb. 4.  
Seven test-tube babies, Australia's first, will be born in Sydney by April, gynaecologists at the Crown Street Fertility Clinic have announced.

A spokesman for the Australian Roman Catholic Church said the Church opposes artificial insemination, regarding it as immoral.—United Press.

## Holidays Abroad For Britons

London, Feb. 4.  
British tourists will again be able to holiday in Switzerland from May 1 as a result of the "satisfactory arrangements on the balance of payments," the Treasury announced tonight.

Holiday traffic will be regulated according to the balance of payments.

After discussions between a Swiss delegation and the Board of Trade, an agreement was reached on measures to govern payments for the year ending Feb. 28, 1949, within the framework of the Anglo-Swiss monetary agreement of 1946, the statement said.

An arrangement was also reached on a related programme of trade for 1949.

During the year 1947 to 1948, the sterling area was in deficit with Switzerland, but it has now been agreed that for the year 1948 to 1949, payments should be brought into balance so that further losses of gold by the United Kingdom should be avoided, the Treasury added.

To make this readjustment possible Switzerland will increase its imports from the sterling area and the Swiss authorities are prepared to authorise the importation of all classes of goods of sterling area origin.

The Swiss would, however, control the volume of exports to the sterling area in such a way as to keep it between the limits necessary to maintain the balance of payments.—Reuter.

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2. Latest Pathé Newsreel—  
CANADA REVEALS ATOM  
SECRETS  
AUSTRALIA V ENGLAND—  
Rugby

3. SNOWDONIA—  
A coloured Travelogue

4. WORLD PROBLEMS 1—  
World Shortage of Food,  
Destruction, Devastation, Starvation—  
The REMEDY.

5. LOOKING THROUGH GLASS  
What you don't know about Glass

6. Coloured Cartoon—  
DONALD'S DOUBLE TROUBLE

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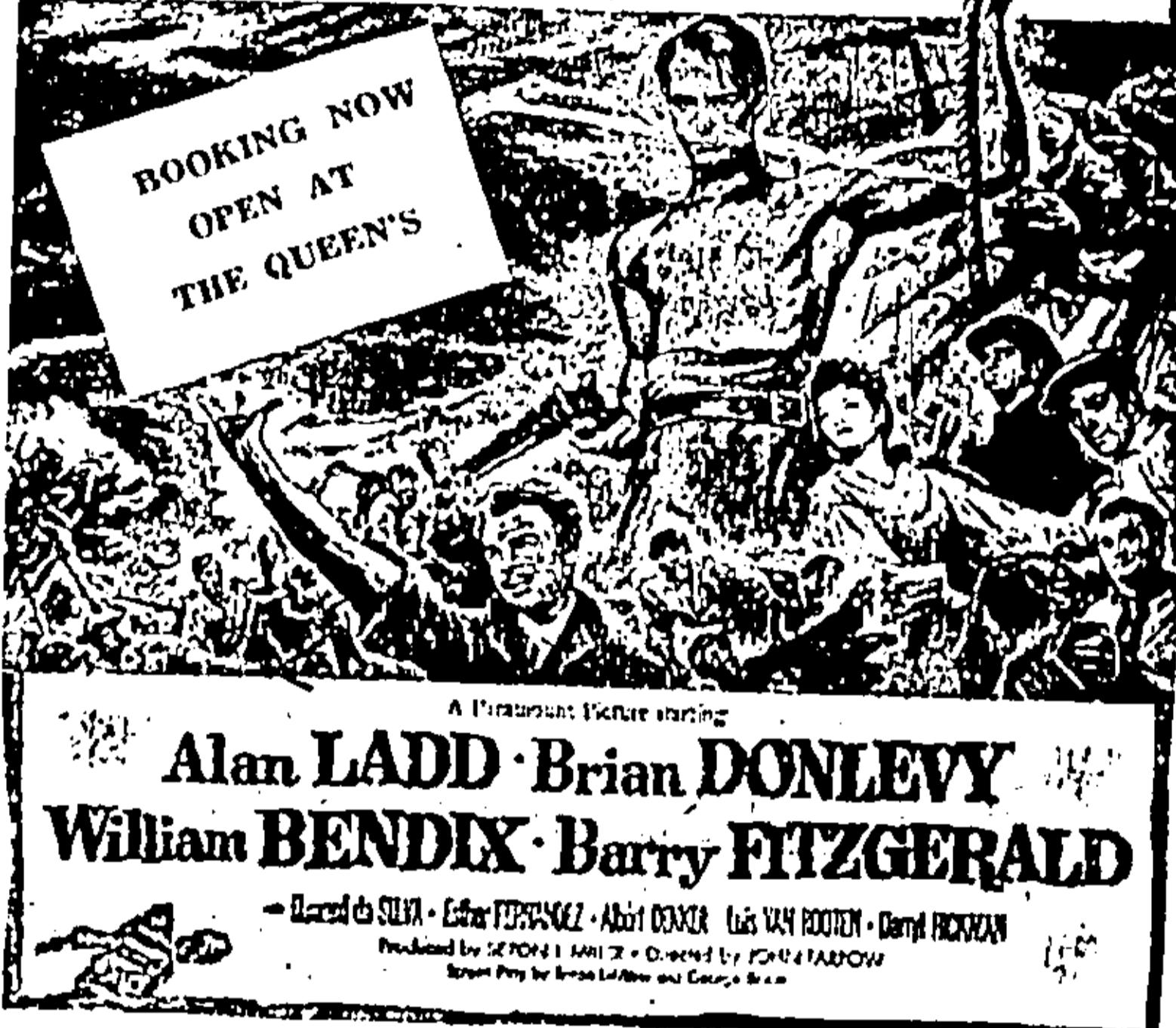
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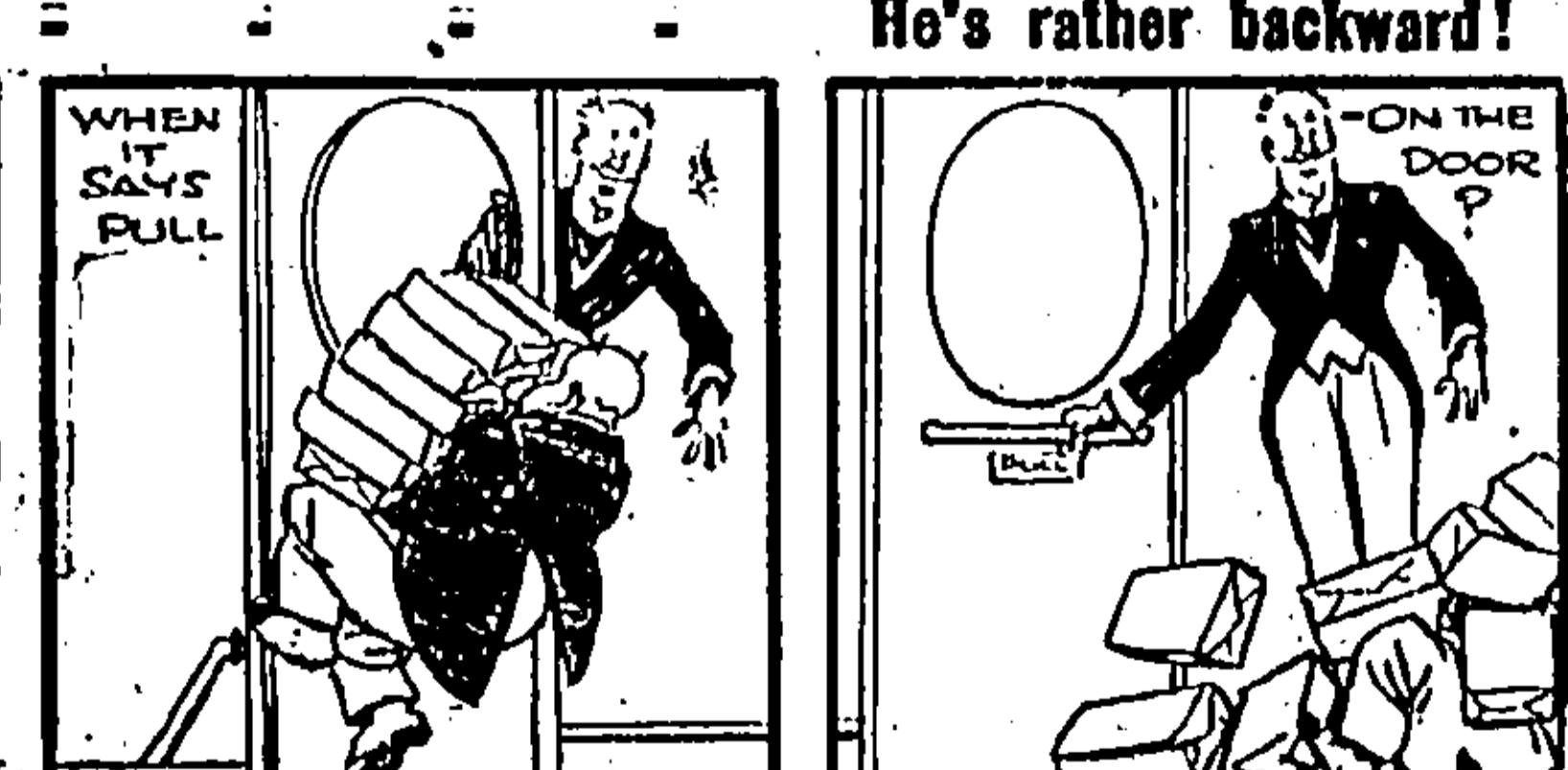
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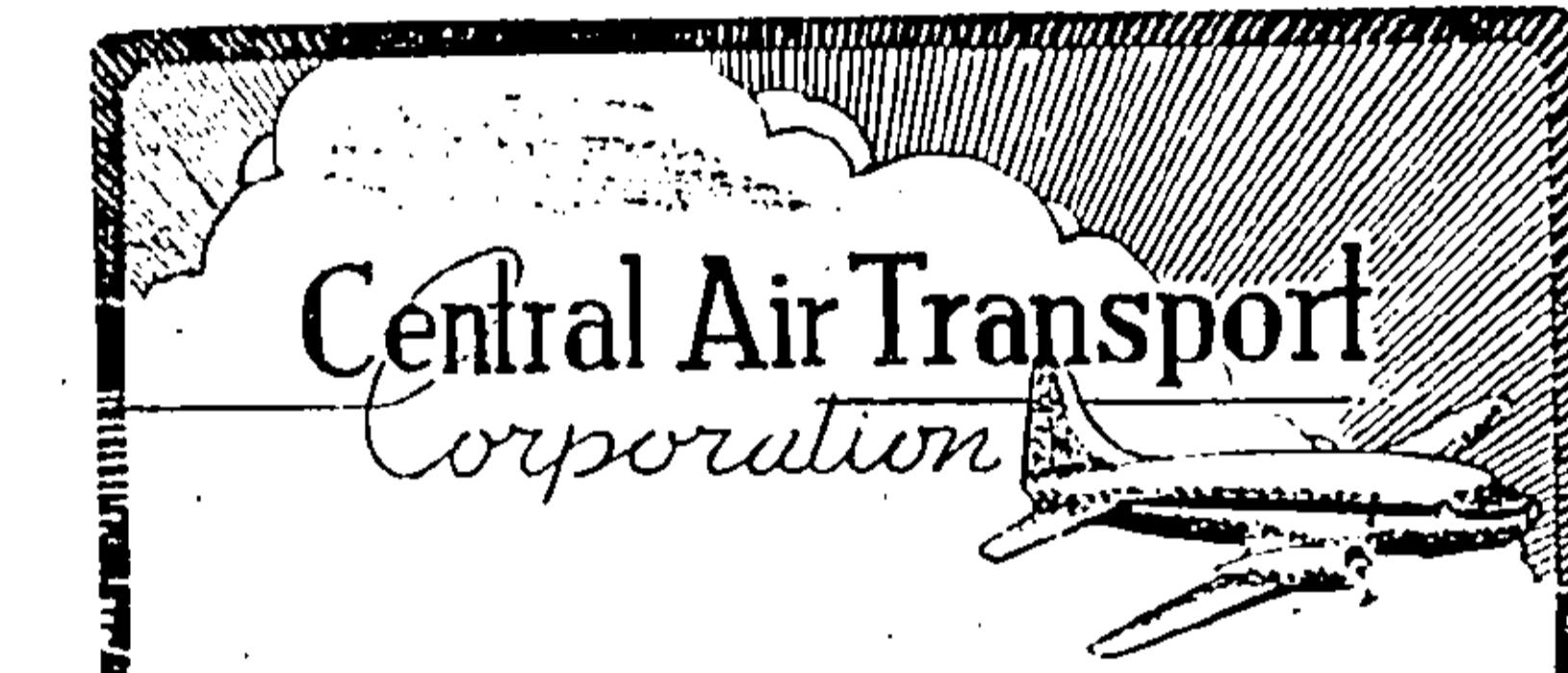
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TRAFFIC CODE  
CRITICISM

In questioning the arbitrary powers conceded to the Commissioner of Police under Regulation 1 of the Traffic Ordinance, to suspend a driver's licence and take a public vehicle off the road, Mr. E. H. Losby, at the Kowloon Magistracy, on Tuesday, touched upon a very sore point. It is, in fact, an extraordinary process of authoritarian thinking which does away entirely with the usual agencies of law enforcement in this Colony, and permits the Commissioner of Police to award a licence whether or not the offender has been convicted in a Magistrate's court.

No question arises of attacking the wisdom or discretion of the Commissioner of Police. One assumes that, like Caesar's wife, he is high above suspicion. In fact, however, these remarkably wide powers are not too need nor best the province of the Commissioner, but must inevitably be delegated to a junior subordinate on whose reports the Commissioner must rely.

The obvious dangers need hardly be stressed. There are more than enough temptations to and opportunities for squeezing and corruption in the Colony without adding to them the possibility of exploitation of a power of licence suspension which can circumvent the check provided by ministerial proceedings, and thereby the simple necessity of proving a case.

Mr. Losby's protest was based upon the fact, primarily, that seven taxis belonging to his clients had been ordered off the roads, although in some cases neither the drivers nor the owners had been prosecuted in the courts, but had simply been the recipients of warning notices, the ride apparently being that three warnings entitle the police to take direct action.

Clearly, there is something highly dubious about the grant of wide powers of this description. Either one or two or all three of the offences are sufficiently serious to call for more than a warning, or the cumulative effect of three trifling offences must remain insufficient to justify the extremely drastic step of suspending a man's licence, or, what is far more serious from a taxi-operator's viewpoint, the idling of a vehicle for three months, which must involve serious loss.

For the principle of keeping

public vehicles from becoming a menace or a public nuisance, there will be every support. But there are ways and ways of enforcing conformity with traffic regulations, and this particular method is one which fails to measure up to ordinary standards of justice.

Decisions which affect a man's livelihood should be left to magistrates, who are privileged to hear both sides of a case. We have pointed to the risk that goes with the present system: there should be no risk at all, either of a miscarriage of justice, or of "persecution."

VARSITY GETS  
A REPRIEVE

Shanghai, Feb. 4.—Just before his return to Nanking last night, Dr. Hau Li-wu, Vice-Minister of Education, announced his ministry had cancelled the previous decision to dissolve the National Tong Chi University for last Thursday's plotting and assault on Mayor K. C. Wu.

In a statement, Dr. Hau said the reversal decision reflected indications that the students were eager to return to classes. He also promised to extend the investigations to all the colleges whose students had aided and abetted in the plotting. Referred

LET US REALLY FACE  
THE FUTURE

By Frank Owen

What's Happening

The stock of the Labour Party is rising. Since their heavy defeat at the November municipal polls the Socialists have made a real recovery. Gravesend marked the turn of the tide.

Rising output of coal and new record in steel production were a welcome Christmas present to a harassed nation.

The people cheered the miners—and yesterday a chap said to me: "Perhaps even old Shilowell wasn't as black as he painted himself."

Although the Labour Party propagandists like to pretend that Tories and Liberals would rather see Britain ruined than Socialism succeed, we all hope that things will continue to mend.

The country might even then be able to afford the most inept and ignorant Administration it has had since that of Lord Newcastle 200 years ago.

Unfortunately, the signs are otherwise. When the Ministers have finished boasting about the triumph of nationalisation, the bill for dear, dirty coal will come in. The bill for crowded, slow rail transport will come in. The bill for all our admirable but also expensive social reforms will come in.

The country might even then be able to afford the most inept and ignorant Administration it has had since that of Lord Newcastle 200 years ago.

Meantime, what is being done to raise output within the existing framework of hours?

With one eye on the general

election of 1950 the Labour Party has now come out in favour of joint Production Committees in the factories. Do the Socialist leaders seriously believe that this system (a very real form of industrial democracy) will help us to solve our production crisis today?

Yes! says the *Daily Herald*, and gets very petulant when it is pointed out that the Tories advocated the very same thing in their Industrial Charter (which the *Herald* jeered at).

It is good bragging that production is up. It is not up high enough.

And why? Because we have not yet had the courage of the common sense to dip into the one great golden reserve, which still remains to us—our leisure.

We are not going to get to the Land on a 36-hour week.

To be libel and libelled as a "reactionary." In six months' time the first Cabinet Minister to say it will be praised for his "foresight and fearlessness."

If they had really believed in it, why they do less than nothing about it for the 30 months they have been in office?

For the fact is that since the regime of Socialism began a large number of the Committees set up in the war have actually lapsed.

It hurts the Socialist Party to have this exposure of their failure. So they turn and read the man who does it, who happened to be a former Liberal, Mr. Leslie Horne-Belisha.

The only Liberal who finds favour in Socialist eyes is one such as Sir Richard Atchand, who jumped on to their bandwagon a quarter of an hour before he won Gravesend.

Or Lord Simon of Wythenshaw, who arrived in the Socialist Party one day and became a Socialist peer and Governor of the B.R.C. the next one.

Or their latest standard-bearer at Croydon, Mr. Harold Nicolson. Harold arrived at Socialism via two remarkable Mentors, Sir Oswald Mosley and the late Mr. Ramsey MacDonald.

But I had better stop reminding of the political parts of our rulers. Otherwise Mr. John Strachey will be extremely cross with me, too.

Take Berlin, for instance, which has about 430 British families and forty Messes. In six months last year there were 32 housebreakings, 26 garage breakings, 27 larcenies from dwellings, and of these 85 only three were detected. Even in cases of simple larceny numbering 347, usually the servants, only 145 were detected.

In these six months there was a total of about 440 of the above named crimes, or about two per year per British family in Berlin. This is equal to thefts and housebreakings in a town of 100,000 in England. Here is what happened to a few people:

Mr. A. Albu, political chief in Berlin, went out to dinner and returned to find his flat ransacked. The thieves sat in the garden and watched him go upstairs; then they re-entered the house and took his overcoat off the peg as well.

Brigadier W. R. N. Hindle, D.S.O., the deputy military governor, went on leave, but another officer and his servants were always in the residence. The burglars carried off all his family silver.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ian Gillies went out to dinner, and when he returned to his flat it had been stripped of every article of clothing, food and jewellery. His library, presents, silver, wireless set, clock and regimental badges were gone.

Sergeant-Major F. C. Gillies looked out of his Mess one dark night to see Germans loading into a lorry the wheels and tyres of a long line of parked British cars. He gave the alarm, but was himself stunned with a wheel spanner before help came.

The view in Britain is that the charges of high treason were never proved, that the trial had a highly political character, whose main purpose was to eliminate the non-Communist opposition in Rumania and that they were not in accordance with Article 3 of the Rumanian peace treaty.

The British Government avoided sending protest notes during the trial of Dr. Marin and his supporters following the United States' patched note.

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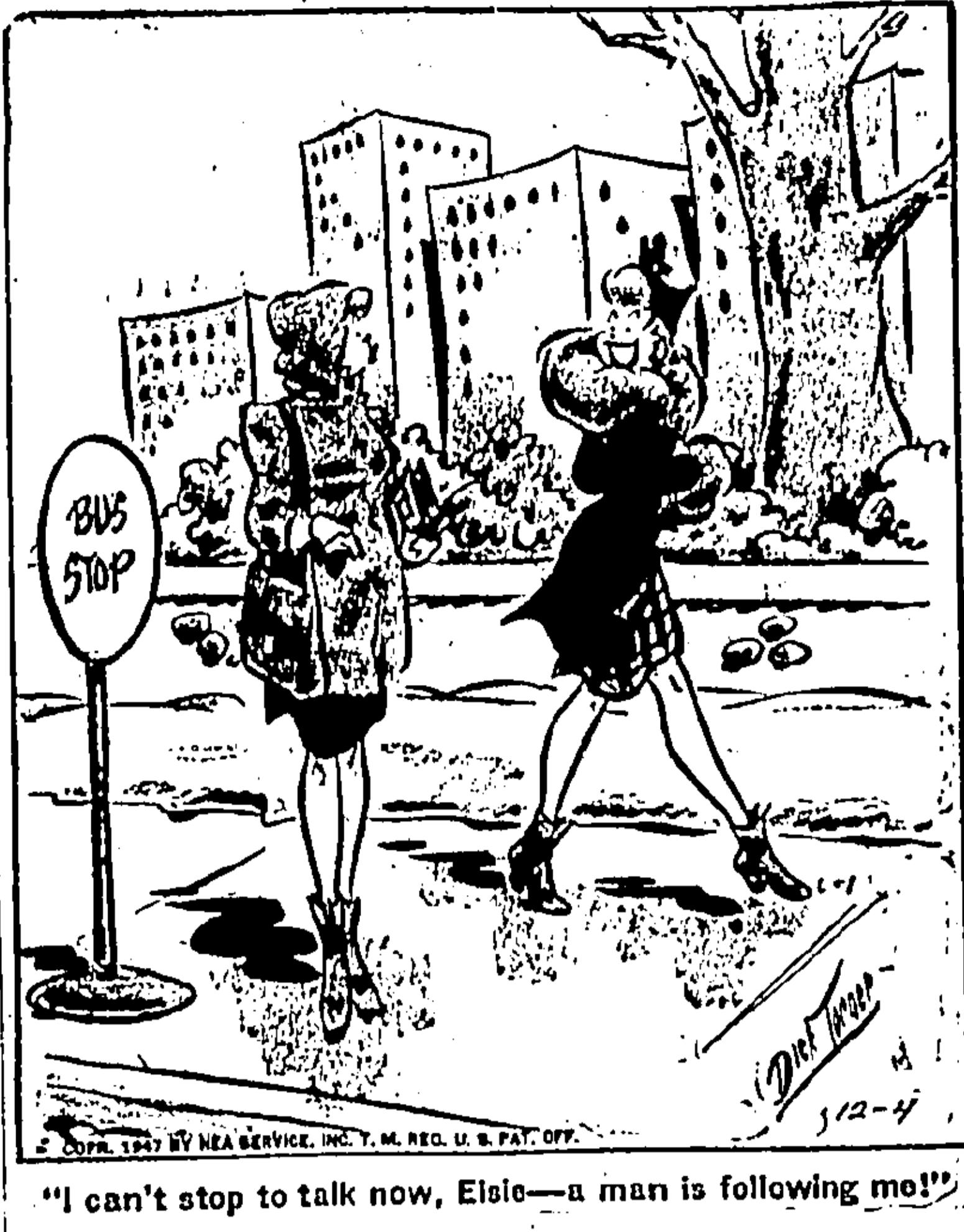
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## CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



## There's Chintz In Germany Too

By Ian Colvin

Berlin, Sunday.

As you drive through Germany you often see among the houses that have roofs on curtains of a peculiar light blue or rusty-flowered chintz in the windows—the only two patterns that are available to furnish British houses.

You know at once from the chintz curtains that a British family lives there, and so do the German desperadoes who make a living by looting the victor. They know that there are clothes, wireless sets, food and cigarettes behind the blue and rusty-flowered curtains.

That is one of the reasons why the British housewife in Germany is living a very different life from the champagne-supper existence that some people imagine. It is hard to find a family here that has not been robbed by German burglars.

Take Berlin, for instance, which has about 430 British families and forty Messes. In six months last year there were 32 housebreakings, 26 garage breakings, 27 larcenies from dwellings, and of these 85 only three were detected. Even in cases of simple larceny numbering 347, usually the servants, only 145 were detected.

In these six months there was a total of about 440 of the above named crimes, or about two per year per British family in Berlin. This is equal to thefts and housebreakings in a town of 100,000 in England. Here is what happened to a few people:

A similar note has been sent by the United States.

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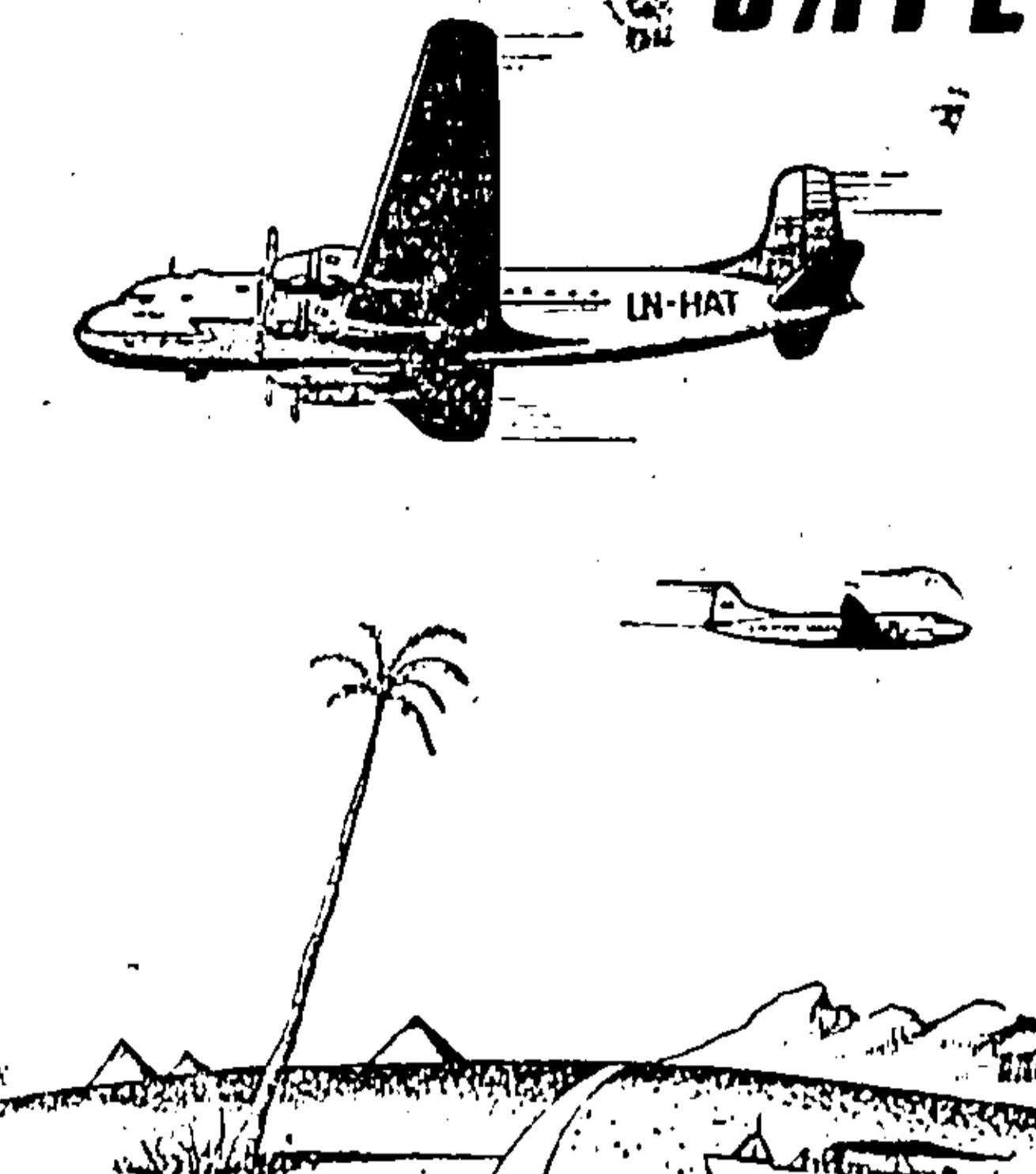
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Tel: 58870.**CEYLON GETS INDEPENDENCE**  
Colombo Prepares For Celebrations**Britain's Newest Dominion**

Colombo, Feb. 4. Ceylon becomes an independent partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations at midnight tonight.

Celebrations throughout the newest Dominion tomorrow will mark the coming of independence after 315 years of Portuguese, Dutch and British rule.

The Singhalese flag, lowered 122 years ago when the island nation voluntarily accepted British rule, will be hoisted to fly side by side with the British Union Jack.

A gun salute will herald the island's freedom at 0730 tomorrow, when Sir Henry Moore will take the oath as Governor-General. Religious ceremonies will mark the occasion.

A harbour festival including firework displays and native dances is scheduled for tomorrow night.

The island is the second British possession to be given self-government in the Commonwealth in three days. Self-government for the Malayan Federation was proclaimed on Sunday.

The Duke of Gloucester, acting on behalf of his brother, King George VI, will open the first session of the new dominion's Parliament on February 10.—Associated Press.

Teams of workmen are everywhere rigging up scaffolding, fixing floodlights or brightening buildings with coloured paper and balloons.

Lion flags—replicas of the last flag of Kandy, King—will be prominent everywhere.

The bells of Lanka, breathless with anticipation, are busy ringing in commencing through their war-dozes.

Although the crescendo of the celebrations will be reached only on February 10, when the Duke of Gloucester opens Parliament, a long series of social gatherings, fetes and carnivals will keep the Islanders looking their best.

A special carnival in honour of "independent Lanka's" beauty queen, 1948, claims the particular attention of the women, many of whom have returned from India with ravishing scarves after shopping trips.

**Truce Talks In N.E.I.**

BATAVIA, FEB. 4. DR. HUBERTUS VAN MOOK, DUTCH LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, TODAY MET DR. MOHAMED HATTA, INDONESIAN REPUBLICAN PREMIER AND VICE-PRESIDENT, FOR PRIVATE TALKS AIMED AT THE IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DUTCH AND THE REPUBLICANS.

Meanwhile, a nine-man British Army mission, led by Colonel R. B. Lambe, arrived here by air from Singapore to assist the United Nations Security Council good offices commission in supervising observance of the truce between the Republicans and the Dutch. The mission included two Lieutenant Colonels and six majors.

Australia, the United States and Belgium will soon increase the number of military assistants attached to the good offices committee.

Mohammed Roem, former Republican Minister of the Interior, will head the Republican delegation to negotiate a political settlement with the Dutch, it was officially announced in Jogjakarta, the Republican capital, today.—Reuter.

**Deportation Set Aside**

Washington, Feb. 4. The Supreme Court has set aside an order to deport Fong Haw Tan, a native of China, convicted of murder in the slaying of two Chinese in Fresno, California. Justice Douglas delivered the unanimous decision.

Tan was sentenced on July 21, 1925, to life imprisonment for the killing of Lai Quan and Ong Kin. Later he was paroled and ordered deported on the ground he had been sentenced more than once for a crime involving moral turpitude.

Tan contended his life sentence could not be considered as two sentences. The U.S. Circuit Court in San Francisco ruled that conviction for any two offenses was sufficient, regardless of the form of the sentence. Tan successfully appealed from this ruling.

Associated Press.

**ALARM IN FOOCHEW**

FOOCHEW, Feb. 4. The city authorities today started the construction of pillboxes at strategic points within the city limits as well as on the outskirts, following reported increased activities by "bandits" who were believed to be affiliated with the Communists.—United Press.

**HITLER TO BE TRIED!**

Berlin, Feb. 3. Hitler and his wife, Eva Braun, are soon to be tried "in absentia" before a Munich denazification tribunal, it was disclosed here tonight.

Though they were reported to have committed suicide in the air raid bunker of the Reich's Chancellery on April 29, 1945, their bodies have not been found.

Delayed action proceedings are being taken to clarify the position of their estates, according to an American Military Government legal expert.

If the charges against them are upheld, then the tribunal can order all their property to be handed over to the State to be used as reparations.

Several other top-ranking war criminals will appear on the same charge sheet, including Hermann Goering, the Luftwaffe chief who committed suicide shortly before he was due to be executed, and others who were hanged at Nuremberg or sentenced to prison sentences.—Reuter.

**Maritime Conference**

LAKE SUCCES, Feb. 3. A British motion to give voting rights to non-members of the United Nations at the forthcoming International Maritime Conference was carried by the majority of one in the United Nations Economic and Social Council today.

The following non-members were invited to the conference, called to regulate world shipping: Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Elba, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Switzerland and Transjordan.

The British delegation asked that these countries be given the right not only to participate in the conference but also to vote.

After a brisk interchange of opinions, the non-members were finally granted the voting right by nine votes to eight, Chile abstaining.—Reuter.

**Bulgaria Blames America**

Sofia, Feb. 4. Bulgaria's Communist Premier charged America today with trying to incite a new war.

Georgi Dimitrov, trusted friend of Gen. Joseph Stalin and former Secretary-General of the Comintern, declared also that the United States was trying to dominate the world through the Marshall Plan.

In a speech to Bulgaria's Communist-dominated Political coalition, the Fatherland Front, Dimitrov said American imperialistic policy had found obedient servants in Leon Blum, French Socialist leader, and Dr. Kurt Schumacher, German Socialist Democrat.

He termed Blum and Schumacher as "false socialists who want to mislead the working people."

He urged that the Fatherland Front be reorganized so that in effect this former Nazi ally may become a one-party state.

Since the Bulgarian Govern-

London, Feb. 3. The lifting of the ban on tourist traffic to Switzerland by the Government from May 1 resulted today in a rush on travel agencies by Britons anxious to make provisional bookings for their continental summer holidays.

But Switzerland is not the only attraction. Large numbers of people are also making provisional arrangements for trips to France, Italy, Belgium and Holland, apparently disregarding the fact that travel to these countries is still banned and the Treasury's warning that they should await further announcements to be made on March 1.

One leading travel agency's official told Reuter: "We have plans laid out for holiday to every country in Europe. They can be put into operation the moment the ban is lifted."

"We already have thousands of provisional bookings with Switzerland well in the lead. If the ban is lifted it will be a bumper continental holiday season."—Reuter.

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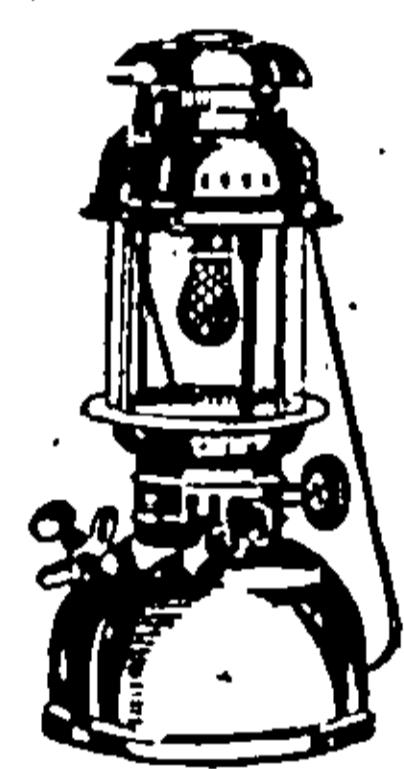
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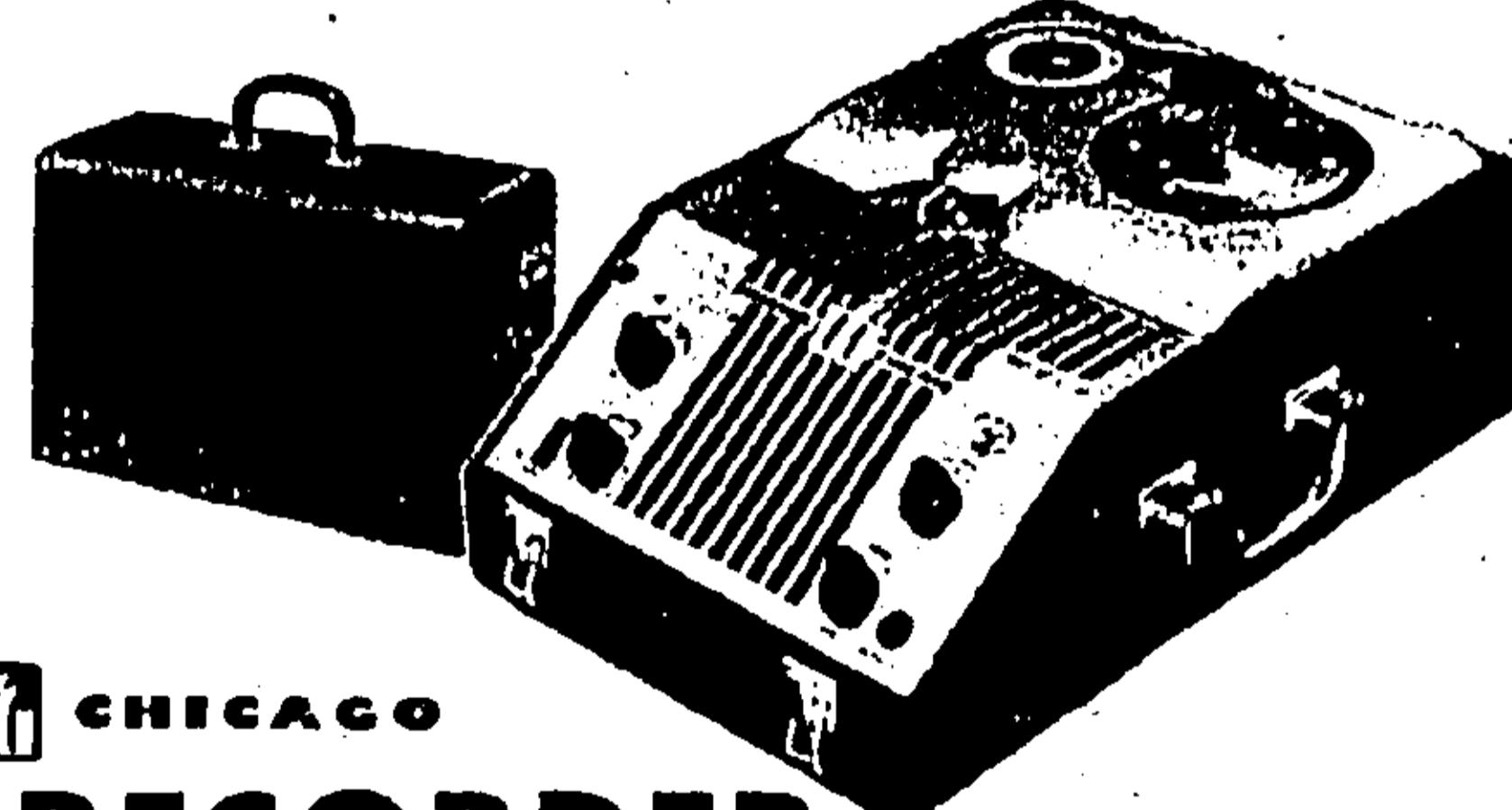
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HAS COUNTLESS USES IN HOME AND INDUSTRY

The Webster-Chicago Wire Recorder is extremely easy to operate — requires no technical knowledge. If you can play your radio — you can operate this wire recorder.

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Portable, easy to carry, the Webster-Chicago Wire Recorder can be used to record conferences, take inventories, field reports — and a host of other uses. Come in today for a demonstration.

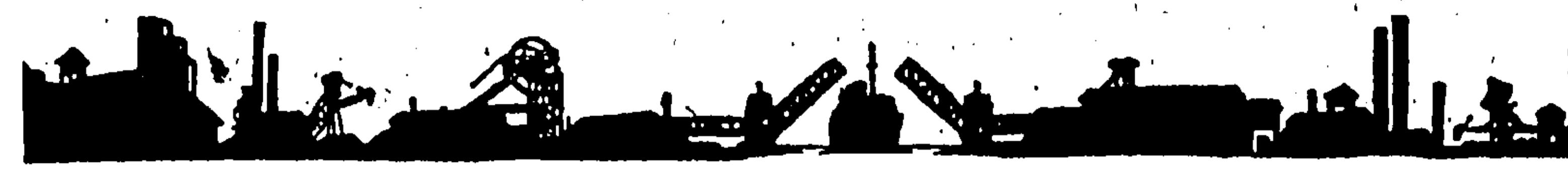
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Capture your children's  
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words — keep them for  
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**ENGINEERING PAGE****DINING BY CONVEYOR BELT**

A conveyor-belt cafeteria which moves dinners from soup to sweet in twenty minutes has been designed and patented by a British engineer and a group of multiple stores are planning to install them.

Diners sitting at a plastic counter on wide air cushioned seats are moved at five feet per minute. After five minutes when soup or hors d'oeuvre is finished the seat is moved to the point where the main course is served and ten minutes later to the sweet and coffee section. Twenty minutes has been fixed as the average time to eat a three course meal with an allowance for people to eat slowly.

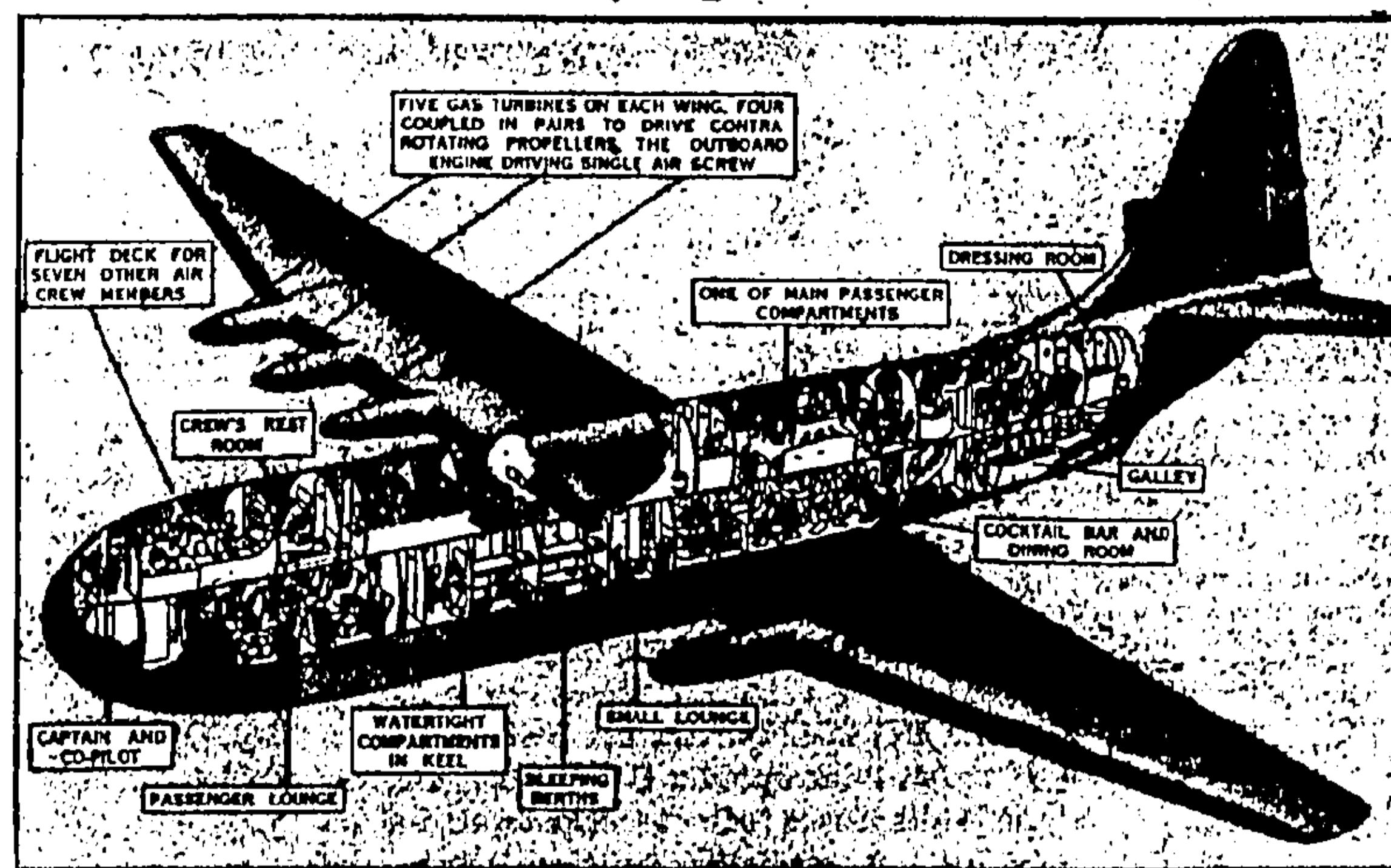
Underneath each seat on a belt is a compartment for hats, coats and parcels.

The conveyor-belt cafeteria was designed to eliminate queuing delays and to save time and space. It can serve as many people in an hour as the ordinary cafeteria and in less than half the space.

Automatic washing machines and another conveyor which brings the food from the kitchens are included.

Orders have been received from other countries for conveyor-belt cafeterias but the manufacturers hope they will be used in Britain first. The Board of Trade has granted licences for production.

During the first six months of 1947, Vauxhall Motors Ltd. produced 30,664 vehicles — 15,724 cars and 15,240 trucks — compared with the 21,249 vehicles produced during the first half of 1946.

**Double-Decked Flying In Britain's Biggest****RECORDING WITH WIRE**  
By Arnold Hall

The idea of recording sound by magnetism on steel wire instead of the conventional way of disc-cutting, although recently suggested, has become a practical reality, is not new. The principle was advanced by a Danish scientist half a century ago. Recently thanks to the Allied Arm Forces which sought a recording means during the war, capable of recording without interruption for long periods and yet simple and compact enough to be incorporated into a portable carrying case to withstand the rigors of field service, gave necessary impetus for developing the principle of magnetic recording into a practical medium of sound recording.

The Wire-Recorder which is being produced commercially today is so simple and compact that it only slightly bigger than a portable typewriter and yet it contains all the mechanism for both recording and playback. On top of this superiority, the same piece of wire is capable of being used over and over again, as old recordings in the wire can be wiped off by re-running the wire through the machine as simply cleaning a slate.

**First Discovery**

Vladimir Poulsen, a Danish scientist, was first credited with the discovery of the principle of magnetic wire-recording in 1898. His first recording machine was exhibited at the Paris Exposition in 1900, which created considerable interest among scientists and laymen. His Telegraphone though sound in theory was nevertheless poor in sound reproduction and even compared unfavourable to the then far from perfect acoustic phonograph.

With the introduction of the vacuum tube and electronic amplification in the early twenties, interest in the possibility of high magnetic recording was again revived. At first research was confined to Germany. A scientist named Pfelemer developed in 1928, a method whereby paper or plastic tape could be given a metallic coating sensitive enough for recording purposes. Thus for the first time, sound recording other than the use of disc was finally proven to be practical.

The principle of the magnetic wire-recorder is actually quite simple. The Microphone picks up sound and transforms it into an electric current of varying intensity. This current when passes through a Magnetic Head sets up a magnetic field. The magnetism is thus transferred to a wire which runs through the field at a constant rate of velocity. Upon playback, the magnetized wire in turn sets up a varying electric current which an amplifier and loudspeaker transform into sound. The quality of the reproduction of sound depends mainly on the speed at which the wire runs through the Magnetic Head. The faster the speed, the higher the fidelity and the finer the sound reproduction.

A spool of wire of the Magnetic Wire-Recorder, runs through the machine very much in the same way as a spool of ribbon runs through a type writer, and is, in fact, constructed along a similar line. A spool holding 7,200 feet of wire gives a playing and recording time of an hour.

Magnetic recording does not confine itself to the use of wire alone. Another type is the one which employs a coated plastic tape wound on 8 mm reels of 7 in. diameter, giving a recording time of 30 minutes with a slightly higher frequency response of 5,000 cycles.

The application of the Magnetic Wire-Recorder for different purposes other than the field of music, (voice training and instrument practicing), which offers the musician for the first time the rare opportunity of listening and criticising his own works) is the scope of business administration. The Wire-Recorder can be used as a dictaphone and if preferred, used in conjunction with a pair of earphones for confidential matters. During directors' meetings or other important gatherings, the Recorder will displace the work of an efficient stenotypist in minute-taking. In the field of advertising, it offers an excellent medium for training salesmanship. In the professional field, it is an excellent medium for a lawyer to make exact recordings of interviews, and testimonial. It will likewise serve a doctor well for keeping record of case histories and a psychiatrist for recording the rambling but revealing chatter of a patient under treatment. For the journalist, it is the culmination of a few generations of the journalist dream for an economical machine with practically no operation overhead to duplicate the tedious work of taking notes during interviews or covering important functions. Even for the professional writer, the machine is infinitely superior to the typewriter or the employment of a secretary, since the machine is there where they want it and when they want it.

**Home Entertainment**

Finally, the Wire-Recorder offers the greatest entertainment value for home at a cost slightly higher than a good radio receiver.

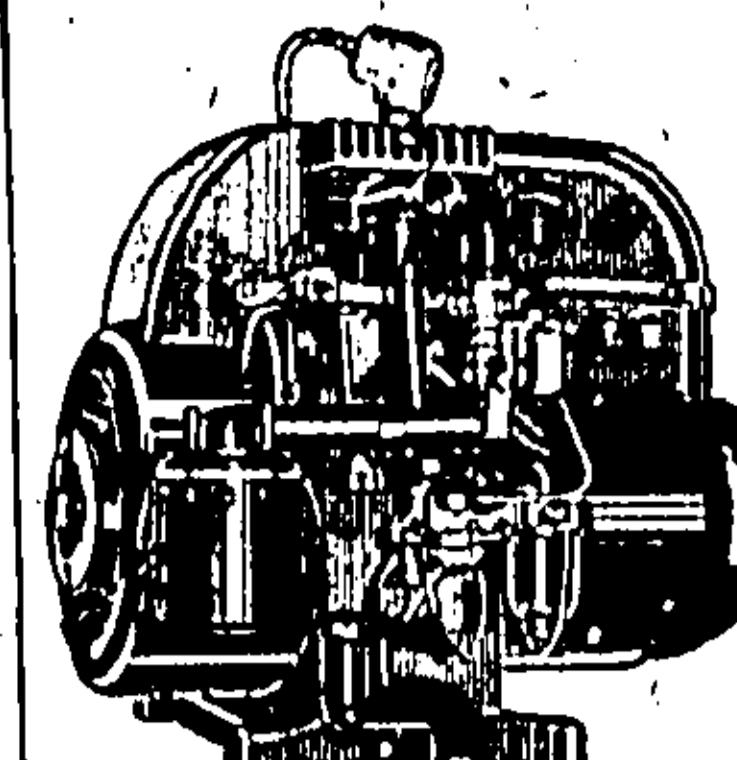
Radio programmes of fine music can be recorded for leisurely replays later, eliminating the cost of purchasing expensive records. Family parties and home gatherings are capable of being made much more entertaining and fun by the use of the Recorder.

All in all, there is a great future for the Magnetic Wire Recorder, a future which will undoubtedly develop into a battle royal between the major disc record and gramophone companies of the world and the new industries of magnetic recordings.

**DETECTO SCALES**

For the first time since the War, Detecto Scales are back on the market, available for all purposes—Food Scales, Baby Scales, Balances, Market Scales, Bakers' & Drug Scales, Commercial & Industrial Scales. These models may be had either in the American pound unit weight, or the metric system. They have the highest reputation for accuracy.

Night accidents were responsible for nearly two-thirds of urban traffic deaths in 1947 according to "Accident Facts," the National Safety Council's statistical yearbook. In rural areas, traffic deaths at night and in daylight are almost equal.

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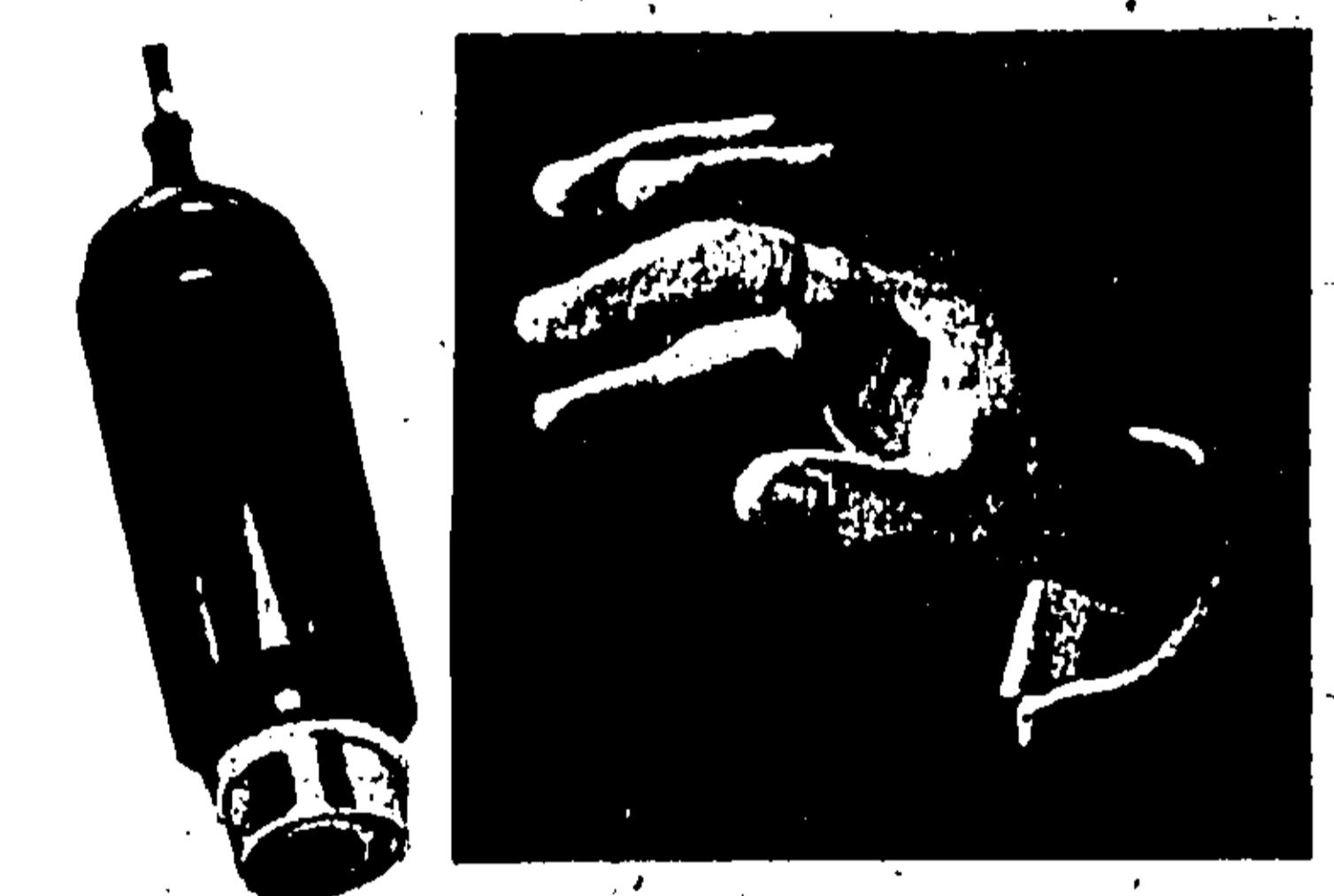
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# MARSHALL DEFENDS PLAN

## Reduction Would Jeopardise Success

### Labour's Support Of Scheme

Washington, Feb. 3. In a statement to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today, Mr. George Marshall, the Secretary of State said any move by Congress to cut America's contribution for the first 15 months of the Marshall Plan below \$6,800 million would "jeopardise the success of the programme."

While Mr. Marshall defended his programme on the flank, a new attack broke out on another, with demonstrators carrying banners inscribed "The Marshall Plan Means Seamen Starve" and "Stop Ship Transfers" parading in front of the State Department.

The demonstration was organised by the National Maritime Union, who are opposed to the proposal that

### Hirohito Mantle For Macarthur

Wellington, Feb. 3. General Douglas MacArthur, the Supreme Allied Commander in the Pacific, had assumed the divinity renounced by the Japanese Emperor, Brigadier R. H. Quilliam, chief New Zealand prosecutor at the Japanese war trials in Tokyo, declared today.

In a speech to the Rotary Club on his return from the trials, Brig. Quilliam said: "The Emperor has renounced his divinity. It has been taken by General MacArthur. He has surrounded himself with a staff which I think is most incompetent for the job they are doing."

"They might be excellent soldiers, but as civil administrators they are hopeless."

They comprised the most rigid example of officialement he had had the misfortune to deal with, he said.—Reuter.

300 American merchantmen be either sold or transferred to Europe.

In a statement filed with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in support of the Marshall Plan, Mr. Philip Murray, President of the Congress of Industrial Organisations, one of America's biggest trade unions bodies, has declared that a steep cut in the cost of the plan would be "well nigh criminal."

He said that a cut of a much a-

\$1,800 million in the \$6,800 million starting cost of the Marshall Plan would make it "merely a relief pro-

gramme and nothing more."

Mr. Murray said that furthermore

the European recovery programme

should run at least until the middle

of 1942, as requested by President

Truman.

**Four Year Minimum**

Mr. Murray's statement, which

was presented by Mr. James Carey,

CIO Secretary, said: "No practi-

cal man or group could hope to bring

about the needed rehabilitation in

fewer than four years at the very

minimum."

The statement supported the

previous testimony from the Ameri-

can Federation of Labour maritime

leaders with the view that "the CIO

firmly opposes any further transfer

of vessels from the United States

flag to foreign registry and endorses

the carriage of relief goods in Am-

erican bottoms."—Reuter.

Washington, Feb. 3.

Senator William E. Jenner (Re-

publican, Indiana) today criticized

the European recovery plan as a

short cut to United States bankruptcy

and suggested that the Soviet

Premier, Josef Stalin, was against it

only to "insure" its passage by Con-

gress.

Senator, one of a block of Repub-

licans bent on cutting the project to

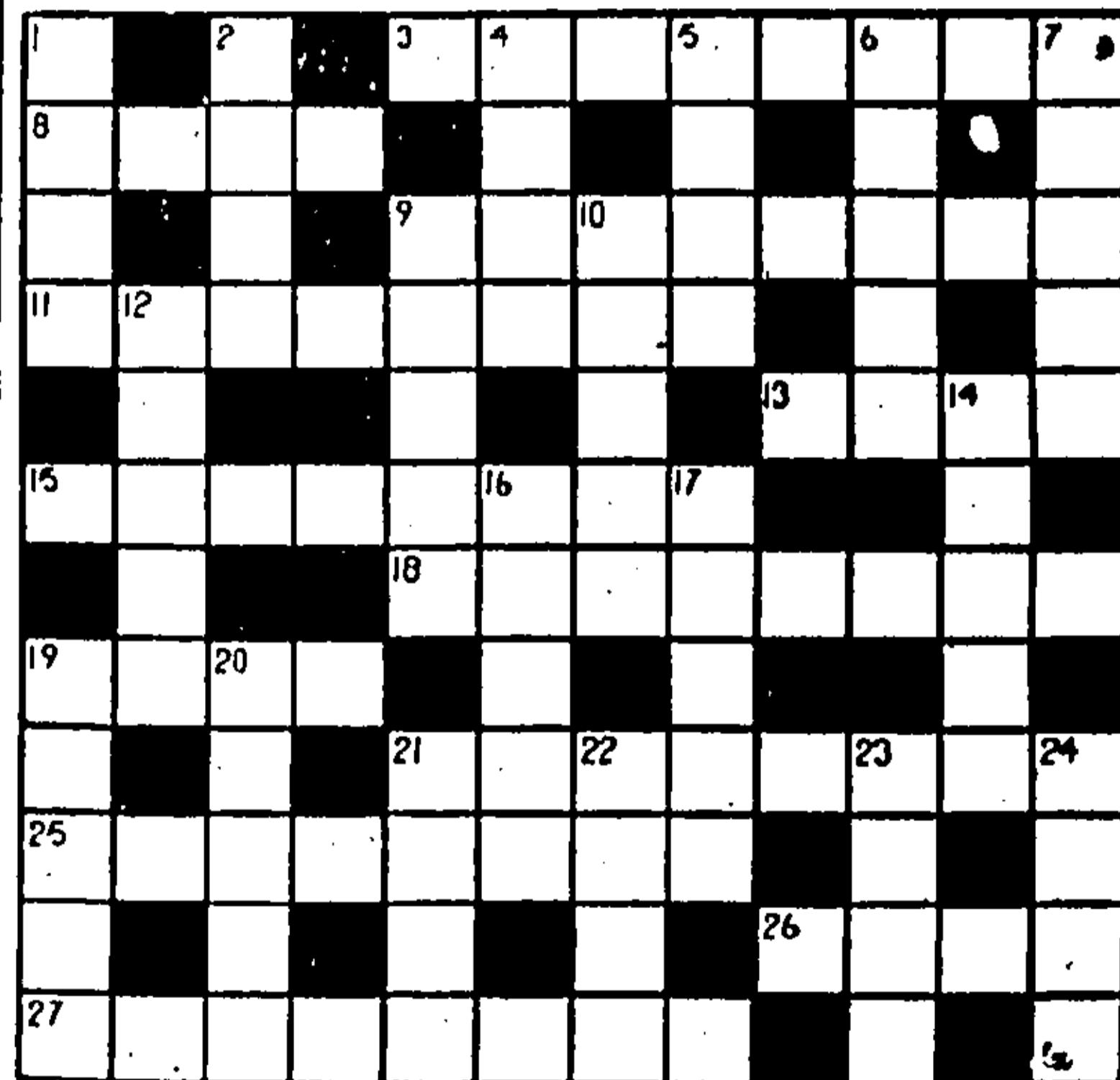
the bone, said in a Senate speech

that the Marshall Plan could not turn

Western Europe from Communism

and State Socialism.—United Press.

## A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



## Clues Across

1. One who incites. 18. Famous cities.  
2. Concise. 19. Legend.  
3. Concise. 20. Produce.  
4. Wonders. 21. Pursued.  
5. Trekking. 22. Metal.  
6. Hail. 23. Examines.  
15. N.C.O.

## Yesterday's Crossword

Across:—1. Bullet, 4. Saves, 7. Infinite, 8. Trail, 9. Sedum, 11. Pevich, 13. Insight, 15. Extent, 18. Peril, 19. Penitise, 20. Eased, 21. Landed, Down:—1. Bliss, 2. Laird, 3. Triumph, 4. Seehe, 5. Volatile, 6. Switch, 10. Lustrous, 12. Eternal, 13. Impure, 14. Gulpel, 16. Talon, 17. Trend.

## THE WHISKERS CLUB



Whisk, Toddy and Snow the Crow were together once again. When they had talked and laughed over their latest adventures, Toddy put a question. "Isn't there something we've all forgotten during these excitement?" he asked.

### SOUTH UP IN ARMS

Washington, Feb. 3. Southern Democrats described as "rolling mad" over President Truman's appeals for legislation to stamp out racial discrimination against the negro, were said today to be discussing the possibility of withdrawing their support from his candidature for re-election and naming a candidate of their own in the November elections.—Reuter.

### Burglars Pull Off New Coup

Ascot, Feb. 3. Jewellery insured for £20,000 has been stolen from Sunningdale Park, near Ednam House, where £20,000 worth of jewellery was stolen from the Duchess of Windsor in October, 1946.

The jewellery is understood to belong to Miss Marjorie Cunliffe-Owen, a relative of the late Sir Hugo Cunliffe-Owen, the aircraft and tobacco magnate, who died in December.

Miss Cunliffe-Owen was out when the thieves entered her bedroom. Detectives found evidence that the robbery had been carefully planned — probably over some weeks in advance. Nobody heard the thieves at work.

At present prices, Miss Cunliffe-Owen's jewels are believed to be worth double the amount for which they are insured.

Sunningdale Park lies off the Bagshot-Portsmouth Road and is not far from Windlesham Moor, the new home of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh.—Reuter.

### CHINA REQUEST REBUFFED

Washington, Feb. 3. Private advice from China indicates that Nanking has instructed the Ambassador, Dr. Wellington Koo, to ask the American Government to grant China additional financial aid in an annual lump sum instead of monthly. Immediate reaction within Congressional circles was, "There will be no lump sum aid for anybody."

The Chinese Embassy declined comment beyond saying that the Embassy and Pee Tau-ye are continuing contacts with the State Department concerning the anticipated new aid for China programme.—Associated Press.

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## ARRIVALS

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S.S. "BENVORLICH"	U.K.	16th Feb.
S.S. "BENRINNES"	U.K.	Early March
S.S. "BENVORLICH"	U.K.	Late Feb.

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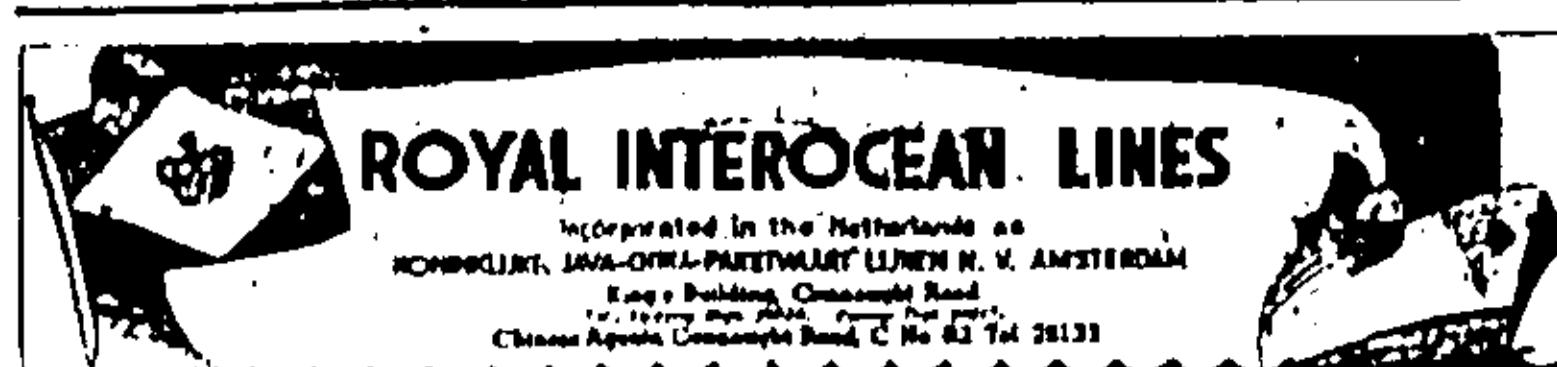
## STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	TO	DUE
"CASTLEDORE"	Bombay	Singapore, Penang, Port Said, Genoa, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam (Amsterdam)	12th Feb.
"CANTON"	U.K. via Straits	Kure	16th Feb.
"REVAYLOR"	U.K. via Straits	Shanghai	29th Feb.
"DILWARA"	U.K. via Straits	Shanghai	5th Mar.
"TRESILLIAN"	U.K. via Straits	Shanghai	10th Mar.
"REVAYLOR"	Shanghai	Shanghai	11th March
"DILWARA"	Shanghai	Shanghai	20th March

## SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING</th

THE CHINA MAIL, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1948.



**JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN SERVICE**  
"TJBESAR"  
In port  
SAILING FOR  
Manila, Batavia,  
Semarang,  
Soerabaya &  
Macassar  
5th Feb.

"TJITJALENGKA" Due from  
Java ports,  
Macassar,  
Manila  
& Amoy  
15th Feb.

**ASIA-AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE**  
Due from  
In Port  
Loading for  
Manila, Singapore,  
Batavia, Mauritius,  
Lourenco  
Marques, Belo  
Durban, East London,  
Port Elizabeth,  
Mosselbay, Capetown,  
Buenos Aires, Montevideo,  
Santos, Rio  
de Janeiro.  
12th Feb.  
Sailing 14th Feb.

Transhipment cargo on through bill of lading accepted for  
Dar-Es-Salaam, Mombasa & Zanzibar.

**RUYS**  
In Port  
South Africa  
South America  
10th March.

**SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE**  
Due from  
Belawan Bell  
Penang &  
Singapore  
In port  
Sailing for  
Swatow & Amoy

**Agents HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE**  
EUROPE SERVICE  
"LEOPOLDSKERK" Due from  
Japan &  
Shanghai,  
8th Feb.  
Loading for  
Manila/Singapore/  
Colombo/Suez/  
Port Said/  
Alexandria/  
Genoa/Marseilles/  
Antwerp/Rotterdam/  
Amsterdam/Hamburg/  
Copenhagen/  
Githenborg/Oslo  
8th & 9th Feb.

"MOLENKERK" Shanghai & Japan Manilla/Singapore/  
15th Feb.  
Colombo/Suez/  
Port Said/  
Alexandria/  
Genoa/Marseilles/  
Antwerp/Rotterdam/  
Amsterdam/Hamburg/  
Copenhagen/  
Githenborg/Oslo  
15TH FEBRUARY

"MEERKERK" Europe,  
11th Feb.  
Sailing for  
Shanghai &  
Japan  
Manila/Singapore/  
Colombo/Suez/  
Port Said/  
Alexandria/  
Genoa/Marseilles/  
Antwerp/Rotterdam/  
Amsterdam/Hamburg/  
Copenhagen/  
Githenborg/Oslo  
early March.

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Pacific Coast	Mid. Feb.	m.v. "HEMLAND"
Atlantic Coast via Los Angeles	Mid. Feb.	m.v. "MINDORO"

**ARRIVALS**

From	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast via Los Angeles	16th Feb.	m.v. "DONA NATI"
	Early March	m.v. "TONGHAI"

**SAILINGS**

For	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast via Los Angeles	21st Feb.	m.v. "DONA NATI"
	Early March	m.v. "TONGHAI"

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Shui Docks 25c.

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"TOUCHOU"	Shanghai	4 p.m. 11th Feb.
"TSINAN"	Swatow	5 p.m. 12th Feb.
"KWEIYANG"	Swatow, Saigon & Bangkok	Amoy, Fuchow, Shanghai
"HUNAN"	Swatow	5 p.m. 13th Feb.
"NEWCHAWANG"	Singapore	5 p.m. 15th Feb.
"NANHUA"	& Penang	4 p.m. 16th Feb.
"TSINKIANG"	Amoy, Swatow, Saigon & Penang	10 a.m. 17th Feb.
* Sails from Custodian Wharf	Tuchon, Pusan	4 p.m. 17th Feb.

## ARRIVALS FROM

"HANYANG"	Shanghai &	1 p.m. 5th Feb.
"LUIKIA"	Kwangtung	1 p.m. 5th Feb.
"PAKHOP"	Yokohama, Kobe	8 a.m. 6th Feb.
"NEWCHAWANG"	Java, Singapore & Indochina	6th Feb.
"KWEIYANG"	Indochina & Pusan	6th Feb.
"SINKIANG"	Swatow, Amoy, Bangkok, Saigon & Swatow	6th Feb.
"HUNAN"	Tientsin, Shanghai & Fuchow	9th Feb.

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"DEVONSHIRE"	U.K. (Passengers only)	9th Feb.

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## Arrivals from

"PRIAM"	U.S.A. via Manila and Shanghai	8th Feb.
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# SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

## ARRIVALS YESTERDAY

Hai Chen (C.S.N.) from Hulbow, S.C.  
Lady Wolmer (Wheeler) from Bankeken,  
Y.M.T.

New Zealand Victory (Jardine) from  
Shantou, China

Oval (B. & S.) from Miri, N. B.  
Prupper (Everett) from Swatow, China

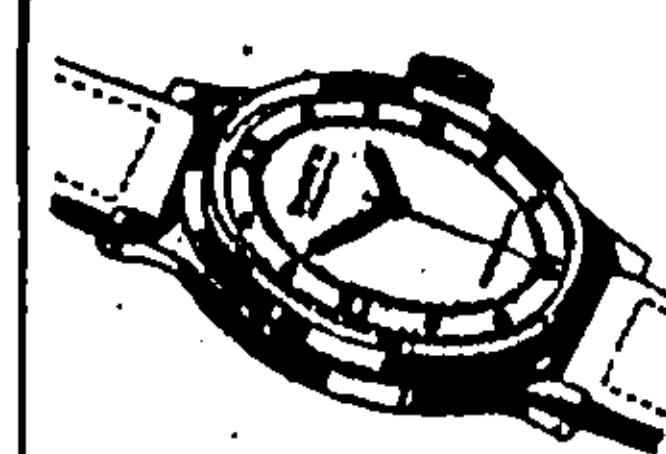
Tehuan (B. & S.) from Swatow, China

Hai Chen (C.S.N.) from Tientsin and Kwei,

Feb. 10

Leopold (B. & S.) from Swatow, China

Leopold (B.



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## 'Kwong Tung' Fire Enquiry

### Telegram From Secretary Of State For Colonies Expresses Condolences

### Main Deck Covered With Baggage

"In my opinion the potassium chlorate was concerned in the fire," said Mr. R. C. Terry, Government Analyst, at the official enquiry into the fire on the river steamer "Kwong Tung," which opened yesterday at the Harbour Office. Mr. Terry was giving expert evidence on his analysis of the substances found at the scene of the fire. He took three samples of white powder which he found on analysis to be potassium chlorate.

Assisting Mr. J. Jolly, President of the Court, were Lt. Commander J.B.P. Stirling (R.N.) and Captain W. Lumisden (Master Mariner).

Mr. C. Y. Kwan held a watching brief for the charterers, the Yuen Cheong S.S. Company. Inspector Franklin was for the Police, and Mr. K. H. Lee, Secretary of the Yuen On Shipping Company, represented the owners.

Before proceedings began, the President read a telegram received by His Excellency the Governor from the Secretary of States for the Colonies as follows: "I learn with great regret of the tragic accident resulting from the fire in the S.S. Kwong Tung. Please convey my sincere sympathy to the relatives of those killed and injured."

The Court then adjourned for half an hour in order to familiarize the members of the Court with the general lay-out of the vessel.

#### Capt. Trott

Resuming after the adjournment the first witness, Captain Charles Trott, Master of the S.S. Kwong Tung at the time of the fire, in answer to various questions from the Court, stated that the Kwong Tung arrived from Canton at 8.00 a.m. on the morning of the fire and was berthed on the East side of the Yuen On wharf.

He arrived on his ship at 7.30 p.m. shortly after the fire, enquired of the Chief Officer what the commotion was and was told that there was a fire in the aft tween-deck. The forward and aft large cargo port doors were opened. The middle door was never opened.

All the cargo port doors on the starboard side were always closed.

He had two gangways in position from the forward and after cargo port on the port side. There was an additional gangway leading to the saloon deck.

There was no cargo on board at the time of the fire and he produced the manifest to substantiate his statement.

"Goods on the main deck were passengers' luggage," he said.

The main deck was completely covered with baggage when he visited it at 7.30 p.m.

#### Powerless

"We are powerless to prevent passengers from operating their luggage on the main decks. It is not a proper procedure but the practice had been going on for many years," he said.

All the four ladders leading to the main deck were cleared when he visited that part of the ship.

Dead low water was at 6.40 p.m. and passengers could easily have jumped onto the wharf from the main deck.

The ship was to have sailed at 9.00 p.m. that night and in his opinion the cause of so many deaths was panic. The passengers could have easily gone up to the main deck.

At 7.30 p.m. there was still a certain amount of excitement, but he could not say whether the closed cargo port doors could be opened or not.

Asked by Inspector Franklin whether he noticed passengers throwing baggage on to the wharf, he replied "No."

He noticed firemen picking up bodies and some were rendering first aid. He agreed that the Police did excellent work.

William John Andrews, Chief Officer, said he was on board at the outbreak of the fire which was about 6.45 p.m.

#### Cry Of 'Fire!'

He immediately came out of his cabin when he heard a cry of "Fire" from the lower deck and immediately connected up the fire hose, which was located on the boat deck, and passed it to the engine room.

#### Preached, Didn't Practice

London, Feb. 3.—After writing a school essay on Safety First, 11-year-old Henry Hemmings of Birmingham, was killed today when he slipped from the back of a lorry on which he was hanging. —Reuter.

the engine room to operate the bilge pump, which was the fire pump.

While in the engine room he found that the lighting from shore had suddenly faded out. He immediately connected up with the ship's lighting by starting the dynamo. The ship was in darkness for about 10 minutes.

He went up on deck and noted that the shore lighting cable had been broken.

He immediately repaired it and once again switched on the shore lighting.

He could not say whether there was any stampede as for most of the time he was in the engine room, but when he emerged there was still a lot of noise.

In his opinion the breaking of the cable was caused by the stampede.

Chin So, Watchman, said that he was on the main deck in the forward part of the vessel when the fire broke out.

It was his duty to supervise the embarkation of deck passengers. He was not aware of the time of the outbreak and did not know there was a fire until he heard the noise of the passengers.

The whole trouble was that some passengers already on the wharf was trying to make their way back to the ship for their baggage.

The fire was already out but there was quite a lot of smoke of a white and dark brown colour.

The Fire Float had by this time arrived and their use of searchlights gave a lot of assistance.

Passengers could not be prevented from smoking in the main decks, but watchmen were always on the alert.

#### Light Failed

He reckoned that there were between 400 and 500 passengers on board at the time of the fire. The fire-fighting equipment on board the ship was up to date.

At the time of the fire the ship was on shore lighting. This failed very shortly after the fire broke out but it was a matter of no more than 20 seconds when lighting was resumed from the ship's supply.

The shore wiring might have been damaged or disconnected by the crowd's stampede.

Passengers began embarking at 5.00 p.m.

"It is not unusual for friends of passengers to see them off to the boats," he said.

He could only remember one occasion when he had detected passengers carrying hazardous goods.

A baggage room or reserved space for baggage would not be acceptable to the passenger, who would not leave their baggage.

"Partial suffocation and the result of the stampede would have been the chief cause of the loss of so many lives."

"No starboard doors were ever opened at any time."

"Both stairways on the bow and stern of the vessel were readily accessible."

None of those who rushed off the ship were carrying their baggage.

Asked by Mr. Kwan whether the spreading of luggage on the decks had been a practice for a long time and if it occurred on all river vessels, he replied that it was the practice.

#### Second Engineer

The third witness, Leung Tau, Second Engineer, said he was asleep in his cabin when the fire broke out and was awakened by the commotion. He left his cabin and went to the aft upper deck by climbing up the side of the ship. His cabin was by the side of the engine room on the saloon deck.

When he reached the bout deck everything seemed to be all over.

Wong Choi, Third Engineer, said that at about 7.00 p.m. when passengers were embarking, he heard a cry of "Save Life" from the steerage aft twin deck.

He was then in the engine room and intended to go up to the main deck. Leaving the engine room he saw a glow by the stairway on the starboard side and immediately went back into

the wharf, and on board ship after the ship had sailed. He agreed that there was thus no means of checking how many passengers were actually on board when the ship sailed. Ordinarily, he said, the number of people buying their passage on board after departure did not exceed 100.

Each passenger was allowed about 40 lbs. free baggage. Above this there was a charge for excess quantity. This was checked on board after the ship had sailed, when passage tickets were collected. There was no limit to the quantity of baggage carried, so long as excess charge was paid.

Witness could not say whether same practice with regard to excess baggage was adopted by other river steamers.

Hung said it was customary for friends to accompany passengers on board to see them off. He could give no estimate as to the number of such friends on the night of the disaster.

#### Inspections

Asked by the President whether he ever made inspections on the main decks before the ship's departure, witness said watchmen were specially detailed for this work and instructed to keep a look-out for parcels of a suspicious nature. He himself only made occasional cursory inspections.

These watchmen directed passengers to stow their baggage properly so as not to obstruct the passage-ways and the gangways.

No deck chairs were on hire to steerage but passengers were not prevented from using them provided they caused no obstruction.

Private cooking was not allowed by passengers.

Could passengers be persuaded to deposit their baggage in a baggage room? asked the President, to which the witness replied they could not because they feared their baggage might get mixed up.

Since there was no check on the number of passengers on board before the ship left, how was the number on the application for clearance arrived at, was another question asked by the President.

Witness said he did not know, as that was the responsibility of the Captain.

"You have seen the disordered condition of the baggage on the main deck after the fire. Would you have allowed the ship to leave that night, with the baggage in that condition, if there hadn't been a fire?" asked Inspector Franklin.

He did not see any passengers from the wharf trying to get back on to the boat. He remained on board throughout the stampede.

Passengers, besides rushing the gangway, were also rushing up the stairway, and he suggested that had the people remained calm more could have escaped through the stairway.

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Passenger tickets were sold on

## Jockeys Hurt In Collision

(By "Rapier")

In the course of their training, Blue Sky (Mr. K. Kwok) and Meteor (Chinese Riding Boy) came into collision with each other near the winning post.

Both riders were thrown off their mounts. The Chinese Riding Boy suffered slight concussion and had to be carried back to the Jockeys' room where he was attended by Dr. C. C. Ma, who happened to come in to see the morning gallops. After examination Dr. Ma ordered that the boy be sent to Queen Mary Hospital for further attention.

Mr. K. Kwok was found to be suffering from a slight injury to his left leg and was able to walk about with the help of a stick.

After the collision both ponies galloped for two or three rounds and were then caught on the course and brought back to the stables without any ill effects.

## TEAMS

The following are to represent C.C.C. against the Navy on Saturday at 2 p.m.—S. Ramchand (Captain), G. Hong Choy, P.J. Billimoria, E.A. Lee, R.R. Irane, D. Leonard, T. Crabtree, K.Y. Tam J.P. Tsui, A.H. Ismail, Robert Tay, Reserve: L. Wong.

Against the Chief and Petty Officers, H.M.S. Tamar on Sunday, at 1.30 p.m., the C.C.C. will be represented by G. Hong Choy (Captain), H.P. Lim, W. Hong Sling, A.H. Ismail, C.S. Carr, L. Wong, A.M. Omar, P. Esmai, R.R. Irane, B.S. Chowla, L.M. Omar, Reserve: A. Kurunuru.

## BOWLS

The Annual "Attahoy" Bowls Match will be played at the K.R.G.C. on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 10.30 p.m.

Lunch and Tea will be available and members wishing to partake are requested to book, either by Telephone to the Steward or entering their name on the list in the Club) not later than Sunday, Feb. 8.

After the match the presentation of trophies will be made to the Winners and Runners-up in the Club Competition.

The Chinese Cadre have officially withdrawn from the Second Division of Hong Kong Football League.

All outstanding matches have therefore been cancelled.

—Associated Press.

Commodity prices continue to rise and to keep pace the Central Bank of China raised its open market rate from CN\$119,500 to CN\$131,500 for U.S.L. The open market is thus gaining on the black market, which is steady at about CN\$150,000 to U.S.L.

The city has announced that rates for public utilities will be increased tomorrow from 25 to 30%.

Government efforts to alleviate the situation have fallen short of the mark because of lack of money.

## Prices Soar

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—Associated Press.

London, Feb. 3.—Mr. J. Gilbert, of Edinburgh, and Mr. E.H.L. Clynes, honorary secretary of the Amateur Athletics Association, have been appointed referee of the track and field events respectively in the Olympic Games.—Reuter.

Pennsylvania, Feb. 3.—Bob Sohl, of Michigan University, swam the 100 yards breaststroke here in the new world record time of 60 seconds flat, bettering the official mark for the distance by five-tenths of a second.—Reuter.

St. Moritz, Feb.